

Volume 79

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BY JOHN D. MERRILL

Mayor James M. Curley returned last week from Albany and New York City apparently in the highest spirits because of the long Western trip which he will take next month in the interests of the Democratic national ticket. Unless the plans are changed, he will open his campaign in Chicago, continue to the Pacific Coast, and make several addresses on his way back home by another route. This speaking tour, added to the effects of the campaign he made in Massachusetts behalf of delegates pledged to Franklin D. Roosevelt for President, will establish the Boston Mayor as a national figure.

Another Massachusetts man has attained Nation-wide prominence in recent months, namely, Gov Joseph B. Ely. His speech presenting Ex-Gov Alfred E. Smith of New York as a candidate for the Presidential nomination of the Democratic party won high praise from those who heard it and also from those who have since looked at it in print. Schoolboys will recite that speech in years to come. After the national convention Gov Ely attracted public attention by his hesitation in announcing that he would be a candidate for reelection and also support the national ticket of his party; and his statement, when given out, by no means over-enthusiastic for Gov Roosevelt, also drew comment in the press and elsewhere.

### Ely and Curley

The public does not know whether or not Gov Ely asked Gov Roosevelt to keep Mayor Curley off the political platform in Boston. The story to that effect has been current, but Gov Ely has not confirmed it, and Mayor Curley said the other day that so far as he knew neither Gov Ely nor anybody else had made such a request. At any rate, Mr Curley will be out of the State during the early part of the campaign, but will be back in plenty of time for participation in its closing weeks. It is a good guess that he will be heard from more than one platform here.

The unfriendliness existing between Gov Ely and Mayor Curley has been, and probably still is, embarrassing to Gov Roosevelt, who must have the support of all of the Democratic factions in order to carry Massachusetts. He does not want to offend those who voted for Ex-Gov Smith in the recent primary here, but he cannot do anything which might seem to be humiliation of Mayor Curley, who worked hard for Gov Roosevelt in the pre-primary campaign; so far as Massachusetts is concerned, this problem is one of the hardest the Democrats have to solve before next November. But it must be remembered that Gov Roosevelt can lose Massachusetts and still be elected President.

### The Prohibition Issue

There is a rumor that all of the wet organizations in the State intend in the near future to announce they will support Ralph W. Robart of Cambridge in preference to Congressman Robert Luce in the contest for the Republican nomination for Congress from the 9th District. Mr Robart has stated that he favors the repeal of the 18th Amendment; Mr Luce says he stands on the Republican platform, which calls for submitting the question to the States. The only chance the wets have of defeating Mr Luce is in the primary, since the district is so overwhelmingly Republican that in all probability the Democratic nominee, whoever he may,

be, will run behind the Republican nominee unless all of the Republicans swing into line for the wet Democrat, who will certainly be wet. Consequently the wets will devote all their efforts to bringing about the nomination of Mr Robart.

It is possible, but most of the politicians think it improbable, that Mr Luce may be beaten in the primary. If the latter is defeated, the wets must expect reprisals. The Republicans are in no mood to sit idly under such circumstances. Some of them frankly say that if Congressman Luce is beaten under such circumstances they will refuse to vote for the Republican nomination for Lieutenant Governor, and also for other Republican nominees who are offensively wet. This sword is a two-edged weapon, and the Republican leaders wish the wets would not use it.

### One Dry Has Retired

Congressmen Luce and Dallinger were the conspicuous drys in the Massachusetts delegation in Congress. Mr Dallinger has retired from politics and will sit on the Customs Court in New York city. Mr Luce remains in the State, and those who agree with him on that subject will bitterly resent his defeat.

The drys in this State have not decided what they will do in the coming campaign. Efforts have been made to file a straight Prohibition ticket, but that course has not been decided on. It is possible, however, that if the Prohibitionists become thoroughly roused they may make a fight for a whole ticket from President down, and, as almost all of them are Republicans, the outlook for that party would be much less favorable if the Prohibitionists set out on their own independent campaign. The wets are concerned only with prohibition, and regard the success or failure of Republican candidates as less important than the election of Congressmen who will vote for the repeal of the 18th amendment.

### The 8th Congressional District

Arthur D. Healey of Somerville has taken out papers for the Democratic nomination for Congress from the new 8th District. Four years ago Mr Healey ran against Congressman Charles L. Underhill, Republican, and was beaten by only about 650 votes. In 1930, Mr Underhill defeated his Democratic opponent, Joseph J. Boratti of Somerville, by 1092 votes. These two elections showed that the district was very close, and the understanding is that the changes in the lines have perhaps made it Democratic. Moreover, probably no new Republican candidates will be so strong as Mr Underhill. At the present time Mr Healey is the only announced candidate for the Democratic nomination, but opposition may appear before the primary.

George H. Norton of Somerville, who has been secretary to Congressman Roberts, Fuller and Underhill, in succession, seems at the moment to be the leading candidate for the Republican nomination to succeed his present chief. Mr Norton's long service has given him a large acquaintance in the district and probably won Democratic friends. It is not certain, however, that he will win the nomination. W. S. Howe of Somerville, a well-known business man, who has served in the City Government and been a candidate for Mayor, may run and is said that Mayor William L. Hastings of Malden may enter the

Congressional contest. So far as the Republicans are concerned, this will be a fighting district in both the primary and the election.

### Contest in the 6th

James D. Burns of Salem, formerly a member of the State House of Representatives, is a candidate for the Democratic Congressional nomination in the 6th District. Mr Burns is an engineer, and in recent years has taken an active part in drafting legislation for the abolition of grade crossings, for the construction of the underpass at the North Station in Boston, and for the digging of the East Boston Tunnel; all of these activities are in the line of his profession.

If Mr Burns gets the Democratic nomination his chance of success at the polls will not be so good as it would be in some other districts. The 6th District always has been, and probably still is, overwhelmingly Republican; two years ago Congressman A. Platt Andrew carried it by more than 35,000 votes. As for the prohibition question, Mr Andrew is at least damp, but his attitude has not yet stirred up much opposition within the party. It is interesting to recall that when Mr Andrew won his first nomination he was supported in the primary by the Ransom C. Pingree of Haverhill.

### The Socialist Vote

The politicians expect that Norman Thomas, the Socialist candidate for President, will receive in this State next November many more votes than any other Presidential candidate of that party has ever had here. In spite of all that has been said and done, many Massachusetts Democrats are not happy over the nomination of Gov Roosevelt for President and will mark their ballots for the Socialist candidate unless they are won back to party regularity before November. Gov Ely's statement that he would support the national ticket has had little effect with the dissatisfied members of his party.

On the other side, President Hoover is not extremely popular in Massachusetts. There are Republicans, one meets them every day, who say they will not support him for reelection; they would have voted for the Democratic candidate if that party had nominated Baker or Ritchie, but these Republicans are little better pleased with Gov Roosevelt than with President Hoover, and some of them have said lately they thought they could best register their dissatisfaction by supporting Mr Thomas.

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camera and tripod strapped to his shoulders. Most of us from Boston who were to be his classmates had preceded him to Rome, and when we first saw him we sized him up as a regular fellow. So we greeted him cordially, and in response he made a pretty speech.

"I thought the fellows I met and lived with during my course at Fordham were the finest fellows in America," he said, "but I had to come across the seas to Rome to meet the real men of America."

"We called him 'Spelly' while he was a student at the American College, and as an example of his generosity I recall an incident that occurred on a very cold day in Rome, when there was snow on the ground, a very unusual thing there.

"We used to march from the college in double file, and groups of nine, led by a beadle, with a prefect at the rear, and on this particular day we passed a poor old blind woman being led by her son, who was an imbecile.

"I'm poor and blind, and so is my son. Give me a little charity," she begged, and when 'Spelly' saw her his generous heart was touched.

"Isn't that terrible?" he said, and stepping out of line he took out every cent he had in his pocket and gave it to the blind woman.

#### His Hobby Snapshots

"He had a great hobby for taking snapshots while a student in Rome, and if any of his friends or even casual acquaintances wanted a picture, he would not only take it, but go to the expense of developing and printing it."

Following his ordination to the priesthood on May 14, 1916, in the Lateran Basilica, by his Eminence Cardinal Pomi, then cardinal vicar of Rome, and his return to Boston, Father Spellman was assigned as assistant at All Saints Church, Roxbury, where he served for two years, and a priest who was familiar with his work there told me that he would frequently travel many miles to get a job for a man out of employment.

Concerning Monsignor Spellman's work during recent years at the Vatican which has made him internationally prominent, the Rev. Dr. Louis F. Kelliber of St. John's Seminary, Brighton, supplied me with this information:

"Mgr. Spellman was made a private chamberlain by Pope Pius XI, on Oct. 4, 1926. On April 14, 1929, his Holiness raised him to the rank of Domestic Prelate. During the Lenten season of this same year, Mgr. Spellman was designated to preach a series of Lenten sermons at the Paulist Church of St. Susanna, a duty which immediately brought him into prominence as a speaker of breadth and vision throughout the English-speaking sections of Italy. The depth of his piety and forcefulness of his character were given full play in the spoken word, so that with unfailing accuracy he pilloried the evils of the day, while strengthening the faith and devotion of all who were privileged to hear him.

#### A World Figure

"The name and reputation of Mgr. Spellman for religious zeal, profound scholarship and exalted spirituality, already widely diffused, became household words throughout the English-speaking nations on Feb. 12, 1931. On that historic day, his Holiness, Pope Pius XI, made his epochal world broadcast which went straight to the heart of all nations, peoples and tongues. The great White Shepherd of Christendom spoke for the first time over the radio to the faithful of all

climes; his children gained a finer appreciation of the great soul and loving sympathy of their common Father.

"Upon the completion of his Holiness' notable discourse, to his Excellency, was confided the difficult task of translating this world broadcast into fluent and eloquent English and rebroadcasting it to the English speaking nations,

an assignment of which he acquitted himself most admirably. Since then

Monsignor Spellman has become official English translator of the Holy Father's discourses and encyclicals, and has been

heard on the air from Rome on frequent occasions. A broad intellectuality, a

forceful personality and a naturally pleasing voice have combined to make his messages always expressed in beautiful diction, with clear enunciation most dynamic. Beautiful diction and clear enunciation, his messages awaken a sympathetic response in the hearts of all Americans.

"In June, 1932, the confidence and trust reposed in him by the Holy See were further emphasized when the Holy

Father appointed him a member of the papal mission to the Eucharistic Congress in Dublin. The remarkable suc-

cess of this high mission is now a matter of history. To one visualizing the

passage of the years encompassing multitudinous duties and responsibilities nobly fulfilled in each instance by this outstanding figure in the American hierarchy, the successive advancements

and promotions of Mgr. Spellman come as no surprise. Boston bids a hearty welcome to this young bishop of in-

domitible zeal and ardent devotion.

#### A Spiritual Leader

"Notwithstanding the many honors of which he has been the recipient during the busy years of his priesthood, his Excellency has always retained his simplicity of life and affability of manner. Zeal for God and love of country are his dominating characteristics. His deep spiritual nature has penetrated the dark ways of human sorrow and poverty, which have always been brightened by his loving touch and kindly benefactions.

Clothed with the episcopal dignity, his Excellency reads therein higher and more ample opportunity to promote God's Kingdom on earth by bringing into the ascendent the principles of faith, justice and char-

ity and thus fulfilling the devout wish of the present gloriously reigning pontiff, Pope Pius XI, for the establishment of 'The peace of Christ in the Reign of Christ.'

"Of such fibre is he who comes at the early age of 42 years, in the full vigor of manhood, to share the burdens and labors, the duties and responsi-

bilities of the great archdiocese of Boston."

## CURLEY CREDITS HEARST PROGRAM

Clinging to his statement that the federal public works program to relieve unemployment started an upward trend in business, Mayor Curley last night took his "turn" in the verbal battle with Sen. Samuel H. Wragg of Needham.

Mayor Curley, always an advocate of public works projects, was called to task by Wragg Friday when Wragg charged Curley was trying to "deceive" the public into believing public works was the solution.

While Mayor Curley told of his advocacy of public works, he credited William Randolph Hearst with the origination of the idea.

At the same time he charged President Hoover approved the idea only after three years of pressure.

"I do not claim authorship for a major construction program as a means of lessening unemployment in America," the mayor's statement read.

"A leading newspaper editor, William Randolph Hearst, was the first advocate and his views were accepted by some 37 outstanding economists of the United States.

"I beg to assure Senator Wragg that it is not my purpose to either praise or condemn President Hoover and the Congress for the tardy return to the viewpoint of the American people.

"The fact that, after three years of pressure, President Hoover has adopted the major program of financing, through which a construction program may be launched is undoubtedly responsible for the partial ending of the psychology of fear which has obsessed the people."

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### Father Frank at Home

"He was a good boy and was well liked by all who knew him. Ever since he became a priest we have called him 'Father Frank' at home and I'm sure he will insist that we continue to do that after his consecration as a bishop."

"There, I guess I've talked long enough about him, and I know Frank wouldn't like it if I sang his praises for publication. Besides, I'm too busy on my job as assessor here, as we are figuring out just what the tax rate for the current year is going to be and trying to set it at the lowest possible figure."

His innate modesty, which all of his children seem to have inherited, was obviously the real key to his reticence, though his blue eyes glowed with unmistakable fatherly pride over the bestowal of the honor of prelacy on his boy, Frank.

With eyes lingering on the site of his old grocery store, as though he was trying to visualize in the background the dome of St. Peter's in Rome and his son wearing a bishop's miter and carrying a crozier in contrast to an armful of groceries, Assessor Spellman consented, however, to tell me of the first time Frank ever expressed a thought of entering the priesthood.

### Told Father He Wanted to Be a Priest

I happened while Frank was a student at Fordham College. His father had come to New York on a visit, and on a warm evening they took a walk, during the course of which they sat down on a park bench for a brief rest.

While they were sitting there, Frank mentioned the fact that he had been thinking of studying for the priesthood, and when his father asked him what put the idea in his head, the boy said, in effect:

"Well, I've begun to realize that the expense of giving myself and my brothers and sisters a higher education will be a heavy financial burden and will mean that mother and you will have to make many sacrifices. So it occurred to me that I could make it easier for you by entering the Jesuit order."

### Not a Cent

"So that's it," said his father. "Perhaps a little more liberal allowance of spending money would change your mind about becoming a Jesuit. How much more would you like each month?"

"Not a cent," declared the boy. "You are mighty generous to me as it is."

"Then, I don't want you to decide to become a priest simply because you think the expense of completing your course here at Fordham will work a hardship on your mother and myself and deprive your brothers and sisters of any educational advantages."

"Wait until you are positively sure that you will be happier as a priest than in any other vocation before you make a definite decision on that matter. I'll be able to see you through Fordham all right, and then it will be time enough to decide on your future work or studies."

This was sound fatherly advice and

Frank Spellman accepted it in the spirit in which it was given.

### Perhaps I May Become Bishop

But Thomas A. Scanlon, junior master at Brighton High School, who was a classmate of Frank Spellman at Fordham, told me that everyone who was chummy with him there, knew that he was religiously inclined, and Joseph F. Doyle, Salem and Lynn attorney, gave me an apropos anecdote.

He graduated from Fordham a year before Frank Spellman, but they were chums and used to go to New York together on the Fall River boat line after holidays at home.

"Frank Spellman often talked to me about his inclination to become a priest on our trips to and from New York, especially during his sophomore and junior years at Fordham," said Mr. Doyle. "And once, I recall, when I happened to be speaking of my uncle, the Rt. Rev. Lewis S. Walsh, who succeeded Bishop O'Connell, now the Cardinal, as Bishop of Portland, Frank Spellman declared:

"My mind is fully made up to take up the priesthood as a vocation." And with a merry smile and a chuckle, he added, "Perhaps I may be a bishop, some day when my hair is white."

However, that ambition has been realized at the early age of 42 while he still has but few gray hairs.

### Never Forgets a Face

His memory is really amazing.

That's the first thing more than a dozen intimate friends of Monsignor Francis J. Spellman told me about him.

They say he never forgets the name and face of anyone he meets even casually, and that when he has to draw on the wealth of learning that he has acquired, it flows from the tip of his tongue or his pen as though from an inexhaustible fountain head of knowledge.

Boston friends who were his classmates at Fordham College or in the North American College at Rome, where he prepared for the priesthood, people who have met him on visits to Rome, and in fact everyone hereabouts who knows him at all intimately and was interviewed in the preparation of this character study, seems to be agreed that his remarkable memory is one of his outstanding characteristics.

So we may surmise that it is perhaps the chief secret of his great success in winning the respect and admiration of the reigning Pontiff, by whose favor he has become an international figure.

### Arranges American Audiences

And I think I have discovered the secret of how he began to develop that wonderful memory, which has made such a profound impression on so many people. But first let me give you an example of it as revealed to me by a woman who has just returned from Rome, and was one of a group, including Monsignor Spellman's sister, Mrs. Arthur Peganian of Whitman, that was given an audience by the Pope.

"As secretary to Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli, the Papal Secretary of State, Monsignor Spellman has made the arrangements for, and has been present at, practically all the audiences which the Holy Father has granted to Americans," explained my informant.

"When an audience of pilgrims from America, dressed in a manner considered proper and befitting—the ladies all in black, from head to foot, with black veils and gloves, and the men in formal evening attire—is assembled, the Holy Father comes into the room, accompanied by Monsignor Spellman, and addresses the group in Italian.

### Pope Hasn't Set Speech

"His benign smile and soft, but clear voice is entralling, and while he usually begins his address with cordial words of welcome, and ends by invoking divine blessings on his auditors and their relatives and friends for their faith and good intentions, what he says in between is never a set speech. I was told by a good authority. Thus the accurate translation of what he says extemporaneously at any length demands extraordinary memory as well as linguistic adeptness.

"Moreover, though the Holy Father understands English perfectly, it is an exertion for him to speak it, I was reliably informed. Thus he would catch any error or omission in a translation made in his hearing, of anything he said.

"After expressing to us his admiration of the zeal and courage displayed by so many Americans in making such a long pilgrimage, he spoke for several minutes on how pleased he was with the growth and flourishing condition of Catholicity in the United States. Then having given us his benediction, he turned to Monsignor Spellman, saying in Italian: 'Now you may translate what I have said.'

### Pope Complimented Father Spellman

"As Monsignor Spellman proceeded to do this even one with no knowledge of Italian could tell that he was not giving us merely the gist of what the Pope had said. Indeed, as we learned later from an Italian in the audience who spoke English fluently, the Holy Father's utterances were translated for us word for word.

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Though this will be news to his father, Frank Spellman got into an awkward mixup in filling a grocery order one time. It seems that when he first began soliciting business for his father, he used to jot down whatever a customer wanted on slips of paper.

But he lost an order one day, and being too ashamed of his carelessness to go back to the customer's house and

bother her to repeat it he tried to fill it from memory. As a result the customer received only one or two of a long list of things she had asked for. However, she didn't report Frank's mistake to his father, but waited until the boy called again to get his explanation of the matter.

He frankly confessed all and the customer accepted his apology in good spirit.

Thereupon, Frank Spellman promised himself that he wouldn't make such a mistake again, which might cost his father a good customer. Consequently he started to develop a system of memorizing the grocery orders he solicited, with the result that he gave up using order slips entirely after a while.

Another outstanding fine trait of Monsignor Spellman's character is his generosity, I was told by many of his friends.

"He has a heart as big as a mountain," said a priest who was in his class at the North American College at Rome. "I remember the day he arrived at the North American College wearing an old slouch hat perched on his head at a rakish angle, and with a

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This photo, taken after an audience with Pope Pius XI., shows the Right Rev. Mgr. Francis J. Spellman, D. D., with Mayor Curley and City Treasurer Edmund J. Dolan of Boston; the Mayor's daughter, Mary (at right), and Miss Loretta Bemner, who was the fiancee of the late James M. Curley, Jr.

#### BY JOHN T. BRADY

William Spellman, an alert, active man of 73, the father of Rt. Rev. Mgr. Francis J. Spellman, D.D., who has just been appointed by Pope Pius XI. to be Auxiliary Bishop of Boston, looked out of a front window of the Whitman Town Hall, where I had cornered him for the first interview he has ever given a newspaperman about his world-famous son, and pointed to a building across the street.

"I used to run a grocery store there," he said, "and as a boy Frank worked for me when I was busy, especially during the summer, Saturdays and during his school term, except in the baseball and football season. He began helping me when he was quite young, before he was out of grammar school, as I recall it. But from the first he was always conscientious about his work."

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"He has a heart as big as a mountain," said a priest who was in his class at the North American College at Rome. "I remember the day he arrived at the North American College wearing an old slouch hat perched on his head at a rakish angle, and with a

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This photo, taken after an audience with Pope Pius XI., shows the Right Rev. Mgr. Francis J. Spellman, D. D., with Mayor Curley and City Treasurer Edmund J. Dolan of Boston; the Mayor's daughter, Mary (at right), and Miss Loretta Bemner, who was the fiancee of the late James M. Curley, Jr.

BY JOHN T. BRADY

William Spellman, an alert, active man of 73, the father of Rt. Rev. Mgr. Francis J. Spellman, D.D., who has just been appointed by Pope Pius XI. to be Auxiliary Bishop of Boston, looked out of a front window of the Whitman Town Hall, where I had cornered him for the first interview he has ever given a newspaperman about his world-famous son, and pointed to a building across the street.

"I used to run a grocery store there," he said, "and as a boy Frank worked for me when I was busy, especially during the summer, Saturdays and during his school term, except in the baseball and football season. He began helping me when he was quite young, before he was out of grammar school, as I recall it. But from the first he was always conscientious about his work."

"He solicited grocery orders about town and delivered them and I cannot recall ever having received a complaint from a customer that he had made a mistake in filling an order. He also

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# SUGGESTS SOLONS CUT OWN COSTS

## Mayor Sends Reply to Senator on Economies

Denying charges that his prosperity proposals were intended to deceive the public, Mayor Curley last night hurled the deception accusations back at Senator Samuel H. Wragg, of Needham, chairman of the legislative committee on public expenditures, who attacked the Mayor's Club petition for a \$15,000,000 State bond issue to relieve the cities and towns, claiming that the municipalities had failed to adopt measures of rigid economy.

### NO CUT FOR SOLONS

In a public reply which he gave out last night, the Mayor charged that while Senator Wragg's committee advocated salary reductions for municipal employees, they had refused to cut their own salaries as legislators or State payrolls and had neglected to accept biennial sessions of the Legislature, which would save the State taxpayers from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, the Mayor claimed.

The Mayor contended that the soundness of his economic proposals was lately accepted by President Hoover and the Republican party, of which Senator Wragg is a member. For he declared that the President had taken action at last upon the five-day working week, the Federal Industrial Planning Commission and a major public works programme, which the Mayor recalled advocating two and three years ago.

### Might Clean Own House

"The Legislature, of which body Senator Wragg is a member," said the Mayor, "might well direct its efforts along the lines of economy to its own household, since it seems rather incongruous to recommend the reduction of the salaries of municipal employees while refusing to vote in favor of reducing their own salaries and the salaries of those directly subject to their control."

"It is generally accepted that biennial sessions of the Legislature would represent a considerable saving to the taxpayers, estimated by some at \$500,000 and by others at more than \$1,000,000, and yet apparently the wisdom of instituting such a programme has, up to the present, not appealed to Senator Wragg's committee."

### Points to Economies

"I beg to direct Senator Wragg's attention to the fact that I am only one member of the Mayors' Club, and that the economies which I have put into operation in Boston, including voluntary contributions from employees of the city, have been finally accepted and adopted by the other municipalities of the Commonwealth."

"No, Senator Wragg," retorted the Mayor, "I have attempted to deceive neither you nor the public; I am simply endeavoring to develop a sound policy of economy, efficiency and retrenchment to meet an unprecedented and extraordinary situation for which I am in no measure responsible, and the chief executives of the municipalities of the Commonwealth are endeavoring to do likewise."

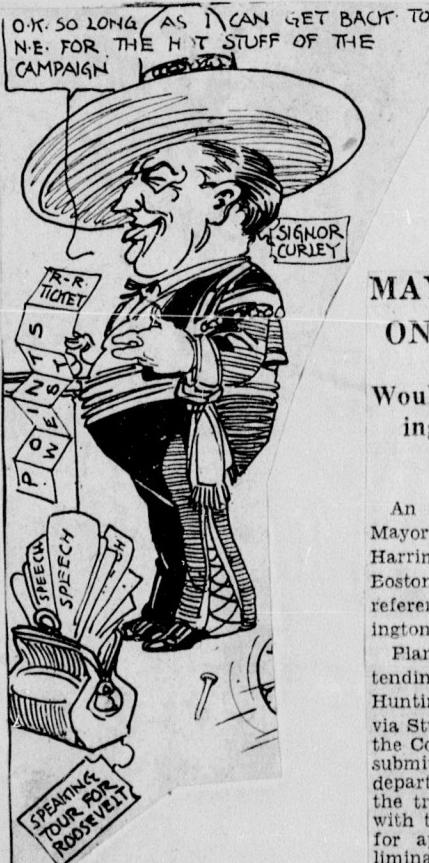
"I sincerely trust that you and those associated with you upon the committee on public expenditures will direct an equal amount of thought and study to the adoption of a similar programme with reference to State expenditures."

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## CURLEY ANSWERS SENATOR WRAGG

Mayor Curley, in a statement issued yesterday, answered State Senator Samuel H. Wragg of Needham, who "although a member of the Republican party has seen fit to take me to task for giving credit to the Washington administration for the change in the national viewpoint with reference to the depression." The mayor said:

I beg to assure Senator Wragg that it was not my purpose either to praise or condemn President Hoover and the Congress for the tardy return of a changed viewpoint upon the part of the American public, and in this respect I think that substantially every important and thoughtful element in America, with the exception of Senator Wragg, are in accord with the viewpoint as expressed by me. The fact that, after three years of pressure, President Hoover has adopted the major program of financing through which a construction program may be launched, is undoubtedly responsible for the partial ending of the psychology of fear which had obsessed the people of America during the past three and one-half years.



## MAYOR URGES SPEED ON NEW EL PROJECT

### Would Extend from So. Huntington Ave. to Bowdoin Station

An appeal was made yesterday by Mayor Curley to Chairman Henry I. Harriman of the public trustees of the Boston Elevated to expedite action in reference to the approval of the Huntington avenue subway project.

Plans for the underground route extending from South Huntington and Huntington avenues to Bowdoin station via Stuart street, Park square and under the Common and Beacon Hill have been submitted to the trustees by the transit department. Until approval is given by the trustees the plans can not be filed with the department of public utilities for approval. The final action, preliminary to a start upon the project, must be approval by the directors of the Elevated.

Because of the delay which has already occurred the mayor is anxious to hasten the various acceptances, if they are to be given, in order that a crew of several hundred men may be employed by Nov. 1.

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# MAYOR CURLEY ADVISES BIENNIAL SESSIONS AS MEANS TO ECONOMY

## Reply to Senator Wragg Also Suggests Cut in Legislators' Salaries—Sees No Harm in State Fund For Municipalities

As chairman of the Joint Special Committee on Public Expenditures, State Senator Samuel H. Wragg of Needham was reminded by Mayor Curley, in a statement given out last night, that economy, like charity, begins at home. The Mayor advised Senator Wragg that the Legislature could save the taxpayers from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 by having sessions only every other year.

"The Legislature, of which body Senator Wragg is a member," said the Mayor, "might well direct its efforts along the lines of economy to its own household duties, since it seems rather incongruous to recommend the reduction of the salaries of municipal employes while refusing to vote in favor of reducing their own salaries and the salaries of those directly subject to their control."

### "Would Save Half Million"

"It is generally accepted that biennial sessions of the Legislature would represent a considerable saving to the taxpayers, estimated by some at one-half million of dollars and by others at more than \$1,000,000, and yet apparently the wisdom of instituting such a program has, up to the present, not appealed to Senator Wragg's committee."

This advice was given in the course of a lengthy statement in which Mayor Curley replied to a statement given recently by Senator Wragg.

In the first part of his statement Mayor Curley said he had no intention of either praising or condemning President Hoover and Congress, but that the fact that after three years of pressure President Hoover has adopted the major program of financing through which a construction program may be launched is undoubtedly responsible for the partial ending of the psychology of fear in this country, in the Mayor's opinion.

### Says Hoover Finally Saw

The Mayor reiterated once again his slogan of the Roosevelt delegates fight, that "the only panacea for unemployment and poverty is work and wages," and pointed out that he had preached this "from the beginning of the depression."

"After three and a half years, President Hoover has finally reached the same decision and seen the light," he asserted.

Mayor Curley said the economic conference conducted by him in 1931

agreed on three propositions—Federal Industrial Planning Commission, five-day week, and a major construction program. He pointed out that the five-day week had recently been the subject of a White House conference.

### Public Construction

"I am of the opinion," said Mayor Curley, "that had President Hoover recognized the merits of the five-day week when it was submitted to him in May of 1931 by our conference, and had he proceeded with the adoption of the same, even in the Federal service, the five-day week would have passed beyond the theoretical stage and possibly 2,000,000 of the unemployed might now be at work."

"Upon the third proposition—public construction projects for the absorption of the unemployed of America—I regret exceedingly that the Legislature did not look with favor upon the recommendations as made by me. I do not claim authorship for a major construction program as a means of lessening unemployment in America; a leading newspaper editor was the first advocate and his views were accepted and commented upon favorably by some 37 of the outstanding economists of the United States. President Hoover himself, in 1930, recognized the merits of a major construction program as a means of providing work for the unemployed of the Nation."

### Blames Bankers

"But, unfortunately, the group responsible for the predicament in which America finds itself, namely, the banking interests of America, apparently were more potent in their influence upon President Hoover than was the welfare of the unemployed millions in America, with the result that the major construction program was abandoned and a movement was launched, upon the recommendation of President Hoover, for the establishment of Community Chest drives in every section of the country, or, in other words, the substitution of charity for work."

"As a member of the Mayors' Club, in recommending the allocation of \$3,000,000 each year from the huge sums that are garnered by the State through the Highway Department, as a result of gasoline taxes, fees, registration, etc. I beg to say that we do not believe that any serious injury would result if a portion of the funds was diverted to the cities and towns for the reduction of taxes upon real estate for the year 1932."

# PUSHES SUBWAY PLAN FOR HUNTINGTON AV

## Mayor Consults Harriman for Early Approval

At the request of the chairman of the Transit Commission, Mayor Curley yesterday conferred with Henry L. Harriman, chairman of the Board of Public Trustees of the Boston Elevated, with a view to expediting approval of plans for the Huntington-av subway extension. Mr. Harriman agreed to give the matter his immediate and undivided attention.

In the event that the board assents to the plans as submitted by the Transit Department, the plans will then be forwarded to the State Department of Public Utilities. When approved by this department they will be submitted to directors of the Elevated for final determination.

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CURLEY TO SERVE  
UNDER GOV. ELY

## Democrats of All Shades on Maynard's Committee

Democratic leaders who were denouncing one another during the presidential primary campaign are conspicuous in the membership of the executive committee of the Democratic state committee announced yesterday by Chairman Joseph A. Maynard.

Gov. Fly heads the committee and Mayor Curley is included among his associates who represent every section of the state with the exception of Essex county and the Cape district. Charles H. McGlue, former chairman of the state committee maintains a voting residence in Lynn, but in announcing his selection Chairman Maynard credited him with representing Boston.

The members are Gov. Ely, Senators Walsh and Coolidge; Mayor Curley, John H. Fahey, Boston; Mrs. Jessie Woodrow Sayre, Cambridge; John F. Fitzgerald, Mary H. Ward, Martin M. Lomasney, ex-Mayor Andrew J. Peters, Mayor John C. Mahoney of Worcester, Vincent Brogna, Larue Brown of Boston, ex-Mayor Edmond P. Talbot of Fall River, Mary E. Lucey of Holyoke, Sadie Mulrone of Springfield, Dr. Justin C. Hanson of Northampton, Charles H. McGlue of Boston, Joseph M. Stokes of Cambridge, Samuel H. Kalesky of Boston, Harold D. Donahue of Worcester, James B. Kennedy of Greenfield, Daniel F. O'Connell of Brookline, Rep. Leo M. Birmingham of Brighton and Mrs. Rena A. Colson of Wakefield.

# REP. MAHONEY, DORCHESTER, FLAYS CURLEY

## Charges Inefficiency Features City Hall Administration

A smashing attack on Mayor Curley for inefficient administration of the city of Boston was made today by Representative John V. Mahoney, Democrat, of Dorchester, vice-chairman of the legislative investigating committee on public expenditures.

### RAPS MAYORS' CLUB

Speaking before the Boston real estate exchange in the Chamber of Commerce building, Representative Mahoney asserted that: "The city of Boston, despite the honeyed sophistry that comes so assuringly from City Hall every time its administrative policy is criticized, is headed for an open switch on the Fall River line.

Mahoney also attacked the Mayors' Club, which he said Mayor Curley has "fathered," and the representative asserted that he has yet to hear from that club a constructive suggestion tending toward economy.

Every time the Mayors' Club gets together, according to Mahoney, "under the protecting wing of the mayor of Boston, another goose-egg is hatched for the taxpayer to add to the already long string of figures representing the public debt."

The basis of the attack on Mayor Curley was twofold—first, a failure properly to reduce assessed valuations; and, second, a failure to install proper economy measures.

### CRITICISES VALUATIONS

He said that instead of a tax rate of about \$35 which faces the Boston real estate owners this year the rate would be nearly \$60 if the valuations were reduced to their proper place. The higher valuations are doubly dangerous because the amount the city can borrow inside the debt limit is based on the valuations, Mahoney pointed out.

"The next mayor will have to travel a rocky road," Mahoney said. "He will have to settle a cash deficit of about \$20,000,000 in 1933, 1934 and 1935 as the penalty for the city's lack of foresight during the past three years. I don't envy him a bit."

"The continued inflation of Boston property values is as vicious a thing as has happened in the history of the state, with the exception of the Fall River case, where disaster followed the boosting of valuations from around \$134,000,000 to \$214,000,000 within five or six years. You know what happened there. The taxpayers quit, the courts ordered the city to rebate them for the excess, and the city government, having

spent the money, folded up and left the job of straightening out the mess to a special state commission. The identical same thing is going on here.

### CITES SPECIFIC ITEMS

Mahoney further said in part:

"A week or two ago the city of Boston bought 5200 barrels of flour for its institutions at a price of \$3.74 a barrel. Last Thursday the state bought 22,500 barrels at a price of \$3.28 $\frac{1}{2}$  a barrel. Of course, buying in a larger quantity, the state undoubtedly enjoyed a certain advantage, but the significant thing is that the state purchasing agent gave the contract to the lowest of 17 bidders, whereas at City Hall it was presented to the highest bidder on the list. When such contracts are made without competition or given to those who submit the highest prices there can be no confidence in the professed desire of the city officials for economy.

"The bond issue of \$15,000,000, which Mr. Curley has forced the Mayors' Club to demand from the Governor and the Legislature, is a colossal piece of effrontery to the taxpayers. It seeks to have the state indorse the improvident methods of the past with no guarantee of any sort that they will be abandoned in the future.

### TAX INCREASE ISSUE

"What some of the mayors do not stop to realize is that the lion's share of such a bond issue—about 27 per cent. of it—would go to the city of Boston. With a seven to ten million dollar cash deficit in prospect the first of the year, when it will be found that the percentage of delinquent taxes is the largest in history, four million dollars of the state's money will come in rather handy in maintaining the confidence of the bankers in the city's continued ability to meet its obligations.

"The allegation that the Boston property tax must be increased because the state tax is larger this year is deliberate misinformation. The cities and towns of the commonwealth will actually pay less in 1932 than a year ago because of the doubling of last year's distribution of gasoline tax proceeds.

"But the first of the year will tell the story. It will then be seen in its full import when people who cannot collect enough in rents to pay their taxes fail to settle. The hotel men told the mayor something last week. They said the city would soon be in the hotel business if valuations were not reduced. Half the people in Boston may be out of work if the owners of industrial property, which is soaked the limit because so many of them do not live and

vote here, throw up their hands and quit. Every depositor in a savings bank will be affected as these banks have half of their depositors' money invested in real estate. It will do no good then to fight the inevitable, to threaten, to arouse class against class and make use of the plight of unfortunate persons to obtain money that ought to have come from application of sound budget economy over the last three years.

### CHARGES EVASION

"In closing I want to say that in his statement yesterday, replying to Senator Wragg, the chairman of our committee, the mayor evaded the issue as usual, only this time he takes a new tack. He now blossoms out as the champion of biennial legislative sessions, which certainly is the nearest thing to self-sacrifice he has done officially as mayor for a long time.

"If the Legislature should meet but once in two years to save \$500,000 or more, the principal sufferer would be the mayor himself, who annually puts the state to more expense than any one else by abuse of the right of free petition. Every year the legislative dockets are crammed with bills filed on his petitions, nearly all of them without the slightest hope of success. Each bill must be printed by the hundreds and the cost borne by the taxpayers of the commonwealth. Hearings must be held and much time wasted by committees and the legislative body as a whole before the program can be disposed of. I think it is safe to say that these Boston bills have kept the General Court in session at least a month longer than necessary each year he has been mayor and have directly added to the cost of the state government."

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### **Mayors' Plan Would Wreck Highway Fund, Says Bacon**

Speaking at a luncheon today before the Kiwanis Club of Quincy, President Gaspar G. Bacon of the Massachusetts Senate declared that if the governor and Legislature "heed the demands of the small group who are clamoring for a special session to provide \$15,000,000 for public welfare work, the notes to be met by five annual payments from the State highway fund, we would completely wipe out that fund for the period mentioned, without one mile of new highway construction possible."

Senator Bacon revealed that the requirements now being met from the fund, together with obligations already incurred for the next few years, leave so small a balance for new highway work, that the sums sought by the mayors would completely exhaust it. He declared with emphasis that he believed such a policy would not result in a square deal to the motorists of Massachusetts who are paying these millions and who have reached the limit of their ability to pay taxes.

## **Curley Views Tammany Coat**



Mayor Curley being shown the Tammany type of fur coat at Scott's new store, 411 Washington street, which opened today. Al Cohen is displaying the coat while Henry Yozell, general manager, stands at the mayor's right.

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# **CURLEY'S BOND ISSUE TARGET OF ATTACK**

The bond issue of \$15,000,000 which Mayor Curley "has forced the Mayors' Club to demand from the Governor and the Legislature" was called "a colossal piece of effrontery to the taxpayers," by Rep. John V. Mahoney.

Mahoney, vice chairman of the joint special committee on public expenditures, made his attack before the joint committee on municipal finance of the Boston Real Estate Exchange and the Chamber of Commerce at the Chamber.

He charged that Boston, instead of setting an example in economical government for the benefit of the taxpayers, has fathered an alliance of Massachusetts mayors, the purpose of which has been just the reverse.

**CLUB "HATCHES GOOSE EGGS"**  
"Every time it (the Mayors'

Club) gets together under the protecting wing of the mayor of Boston another goose-egg is hatched for the taxpayers to add to the already long string of figures representing the public debt," he asserted.

He contended that Boston is headed "for an open switch on the Fall River line." As a result of keeping property valuations at peak figures for the last three years, he stated, the State board of tax appeals is literally swamped with protests of people who cannot pay their taxes "or refuse tamely to submit to such purposeful inflation."

While admitting that Boston has a problem on its hands in public welfare outlays, he stated that it is "disheartening" to find "Boston welfare cards on an incorrigible tramp arrested for drunkenness almost daily in the Boston Municipal Court."

#### **BUYING METHODS CRITICIZED**

Mahoney also compared the purchasing methods of the city unfavorably with the state's purchasing record. He pointed out that Boston paid \$3.74 a barrel for 5200 barrels of flour a week or two ago. Yet, he said, the state last Thursday bought 22,500 barrels at \$3.28½ a barrel. While the state had the advantage of a large purchase, the significant thing, he asserted, was that the state gave the contract to the lowest of 17 bidders whereas the city had but four bidders and awarded it to the highest.

# Boston Headed for Disaster Says Mahoney

Declares Inflated Valuations Will Bring Repetition of Fall River Case Here

By Richard D. Grant

Declaring that the city of Boston is "headed for an open switch on the Fall River line," Representative John V. Mahoney of Boston, vice chairman of the Joint Special Committee on Public Expenditures of the Massachusetts Legislature, today told a representative group of the leaders of the business life of the city that disaster is sure to follow the inflation of property valuations, fostered by Mayor Curley during the past three years.

Mr. Mahoney was the principal speaker at an informal luncheon in the directors' room at the Boston Chamber of Commerce, attended by members of the legislative committee and the members of the joint committee on municipal finance of the Boston Real Estate Exchange and the Chamber of Commerce.

He predicted there will be a large percentage of uncollected taxes on Jan. 1, and said that the State Board of Tax Appeals is being swamped with protests from home owners and holders of industrial property which would result in substantial compulsory abatements that would leave the city administration high and dry in its effort to live on non-existent book values.

"How can a man getting \$10,000 a year live as if he were earning \$20,000?" Mahoney asked. "It can't be done. And yet the estimated requirements of the city of Boston for 1932 will be about five million dollars more than in 1931 because of a reduction of income from sources other than property."

## Taxpayer the "Pack Horse"

"Who is going to pay this extra five million? None other than our old friend, the real estate owner—the man with the second mortgage on his three-family house with the two upper apartments vacant—the owner of the half-empty office building; the unoccupied storefronts patiently in the rear while the Brass Hats of politics gather the plaudits of the crowd up ahead for throwing away his money."

The vice chairman of the expenditure committee termed the \$15,000,000 bond issue which he said the Boston mayor had forced upon the Mayors' Club "a colossal piece of effrontery to the taxpayers, which seeks to have the State endorse the improvident methods of the past with no guarantee of any sort that they will be abandoned in the future." He charged that the reason Mayor Curley is so anxious to obtain the bond issue is because Boston would get four million or more of it—the lion's share—which would be used to help conceal the city's real condition when seeking additional loans at the beginning of the year.

The next mayor, he declared, will have to settle a deficit of approximately \$20,000,000 in 1933, 1934 and 1935 because of the city's lack of foresight during the past three years. Mr. Mahoney estimated that the city will be short between

seven and ten millions of dollars the first of the year. If the assessed valuations were based on actual values, represented by the price real estate will bring in the market, the tax rate would be nearer the \$60 than the anticipated rate of \$35 this year, he said.

## Can Understand High Tax Rate

"This, of course, is the last thing in the world the Boston city administration would like to see," he declared. "Every property in the city would arise in arms for a high tax rate is something that everybody can understand."

Tarrant P. King, of the executive board of the Boston Real Estate Exchange, presided at the conference which was attended by Frederic S. Snyder, president of the Chamber of Commerce; Charles M. Storey, Samuel Cabot, William H. Davies, Robert W. Knowles, James J. Storrow, Jr., Walter Channing, Stephen W. Sleeper, Francis R. Bangs, Arthur N. Maddison, Charles E. Lee, R. Ammi Cutter and Henry Whitmore. In addition to Representative Mahoney, Senators Samuel H. Wragg of Needham, chairman of the committee on expenditures; and Charles A. Stevens of Lowell, and Representative George P. Anderson of Boston, House chairman of the Legislative Committee on Municipal Finance, represented the legislative body which was authorized at the last session of the General Court to study economy measures.

"A year or so ago, when the depression fell full upon us, it was considered almost a patriotic duty to spread the gospel of optimism," said Mr. Mahoney. "I do not now believe that hope should be discouraged, but there is no sense in being a Pollyanna. Let us face facts, not go dodging around them with the self-deceit that prosperity is a state of mind.

"Boston, as our largest city, is in a position to exert a tremendous influence for good or evil by the example it sets its sister municipalities in the conduct of its official business. As a well-governed city jealous of its credit, refusing to pile excessive debts upon the backs of its taxpayers and ever ready to give them the benefit of any saving that might be effected, Boston might well be held up as an example to the others who come to the Legislature for permission to borrow beyond the statutory limit of indebtedness.

## Mayors Hatch Goose-eggs

"This opportunity the city government not only has ignored, but it has fathered an alliance of Massachusetts mayors, the purpose of which is just the reverse. I have yet to hear a constructive suggestion from the Mayors' Club, tending toward economy. Every time it gets together under the protecting wing of the mayor of Boston, another goose-egg is hatched for the taxpayer to add to the already long string of figures representing the public debt.

"The city of Boston, despite the honey-eyed sophistry that comes so assuringly from City Hall every time its administrative policy is criticized, is heading for an open switch on the Fall River line. For three years property valuations have been pegged at peak figures, with the result that the State Board of Tax Appeals is literally swamped with the protests of people who either cannot pay their taxes or refuse tamely to submit to such purposeful inflation.

"The fair value of a piece of property is no more than the owner can get for it in the open market. There are hundreds of homes which are worth no more today than 50 per cent of the prices their owners paid for them. These people are entitled to a reduction in the value placed by the city assessors and the value placed by the abatement board, most of them are going to appeal board, granted thus far by the tax appeal board.

"Why a man whose income has been cut 20 to 50 per cent should continue to

have to pay taxes on such a valuation established when his earning capacity was at its highest point, is a pertinent conundrum to which the gentleman from Puerto Rico can find no equitable answer.

"The public needs to be awakened to the fact that these same inflated property valuations are doubly dangerous because they furnish the instrument by which the mayor is enabled to borrow within the debt limit amounts which are unwarranted by the real wealth of the taxpayers and contribute directly to the bonded indebtedness they eventually must discharge.

"The discouraging thing about the present city administration is that it has made no attempt save in spots, to approach the problem from this its most vital angle. Three years ago a plan for a wholesale revaluation of the city was discarded by the present mayor as too expensive. I am told that it would have cost a million dollars to do a thorough job. The irony of the situation is that the same man who turned down that proposition because of the cost is deaf to all appeals for economy in the really consequential expenses of the city government.

"The assumption on the part of the mayor that there is little flexibility in the value of property is wrong. It is the cost of government which has remained inflexible, while real estate values have been tumbling.

"Even if conditions get better, as the mayor so optimistically predicts, it will not help next year. It is too late to fix new values for 1932. The city assessors have been before the tax appeal board day after day and week after week, attempting to prevent abatements of the excessive taxes they have set, and meanwhile the city has gone through eight months of the year spending money just as if there were no question of its being raised. Except for the abatements made by the tax appeal board or settled by the city under pressure, I can see no lightening of the burdens of the taxpayers to amount to anything.

"The continued inflation of Boston property values is as vicious a thing as has happened in the history of the State, with the exception of the Fall River case, where disaster followed the boosting of valuations from around \$124,000,000 to \$214,000,000 within five or six years. You know what happened there. The ~~taxpayers~~ out, the courts ~~owed~~ the city to rebate them for the excess and the city government, having spent the money, folded up and left the job of straightening out the mess to a special State commission. The same identical thing is going on here."

Mahoney predicted that the first of the year would tell the story and that if industrial property owners threw up their hands half the people of Boston might be out of work and savings banks, with 50 per cent of their investments in real estate, seriously affected.

## Answers Curley's Attack

Answering Mayor Curley's statement yesterday, criticising the committee on public expenditures, Mahoney said:

"In his statement replying to Senator Wragg, the chairman of our committee yesterday, the mayor, as usual, evades the real issue, but this time he takes a new tack. He now blossoms out as a champion of biennial legislative sessions, which certainly is the nearest thing to self-sacrifice he has done officially as mayor for a long time.

"If the Legislature should meet but once in two years to save \$500,000 or more, the principal sufferer would be the mayor himself, who annually puts the State to more expense than anyone else by abuse of the right of free petition. Every year the legislative dockets are crammed with bills filed on his petitions, nearly all them without the slightest chance of success. Each bill must be

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## Police Must 'Pry' to Rout Out Charity Swindlers

A separate department of the Boston Police has been created on request of Mayor Curley, and with the full co-operation of Commissioner Hultman, to investigate the circumstances of more than 25,000 individuals and families who are receiving charity from the city treasury.

Welfare relief is costing the city more than \$1,000,000 a month, an amount vastly in excess of any sum expended by the city throughout the history of past depression periods.

The City Welfare Department, as a starter, has supplied the police with the names of 500 individuals and families who are presumed to be receiving public aid under false pretenses.

There are some notorious cases of misrepresentation and downright chiseling. Aid has been sought and accepted by certain people who sport fancy automobiles, who have substantial bank deposits, who have given up substantial jobs rather than work for a living and, in one case, by a fellow who went to Europe to bring back his bride on an ocean honeymoon. Several persons with criminal records have been arrested, with charity cards on them.

Now what happens as the result of this notorious abuse of charity?

The police must invade private homes and our good people must be catechized on their personal affairs as if they were prisoners at bar.

Do you own an auto? Do you own a home? Is it mortgaged? For how much and to whom? Are you living with your husband? Does he work? What income have you? From what source is it derived? Are you extravagant? What do you do with your money? Do your children work or are they loafers? Why did you lose your job?

The questions may have been stated roughly here but that is the sum and substance of the information which the police must pry out of private homes in order to protect respectable people from the deliberate stealings of the cheats who have fastened themselves onto the city treasury.

Our people are going to be offended and humiliated by this. The average man is a decent man, who will work for a living if he can get work and who will accept public charity only as a last resort. He has a native dignity which is going to be affronted by this intrusion into his personal affairs, especially when it involves hardships and misfortunes borne by his wife and children.

Blame it onto the cheats. They are deserving of public condemnation and contumely. They have made a travesty out of charity, which is the sweetest of all virtues. And the decent public is entitled to be protected from their maraudings.

If you know of such a "cheat," Police Commissioner Hultman, who is personally directing the drive on the swindlers, will be glad to hear from you.

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## Explains City Flour Buying to Finance Bd.

An explanation as to why the city is paying \$3.73 for flour bought at wholesale while the state is paying but \$3.34, was forwarded to the finance commission by Mayor Curley yesterday after the city council had requested an explanation from the commission.

"In the absence of the superintendent of supplies, I authorized the supply department to make the contract award in view of the fact that, after a careful investigation, I found it would be to the city's advantage to accept the highest bidder of flour," declared the mayor.

"I am solely interested in obtaining the best possible flour for our hospitals and other institutions. My information regarding the flour was received from a most reliable source."

Councillor Clement A. Norton of Hyde Park, who sponsored a resolution passed by the council, charged that the lowest bidder on the city contract, the American Flour Co., was ignored, although it put in a bid for \$3.49 for the 5200 barrels purchased by the city for its institutions.

"It is a fact that reputable flour concerns do not want to enter bids for flour to be purchased by the city. Only three bids were received. When the state asked for bids it received 17," he said.

Norton said the state purchased 22,500 barrels for \$3.34 a barrel a difference of 39 cents a barrel. The same price would have saved the city \$2080.

8/9/32

## Curley Again Says Mahoney Owes Tax

### Refuting Representative's Denial, Orders that Con- stable Collect or Arrest

Mayor Curley returned to his attack against Representative John V. Mahoney of Boston today by repeating his charge that the representative owes back taxes to the city and by directing City Collector William McMorrow to turn the bills over to a constable for collection or the arrest of Mahoney. This action was the mayor's reply to Mahoney's denial that he owed the taxes and his assertion that the mayor's charge was a "typically malicious falsehood."

The mayor's original charge was made last night as part of his answer to an attack which Representative Mahoney made on the city administration yesterday at the Chamber of Commerce. He declared that the representative had not paid his poll taxes for 1929, 1930 and 1932 and an automobile excise tax of \$25.69. In a formal statement, Mayor Curley not only stands by his original charge, but declares that, in addition there is a charge against Mahoney of \$11.52 for a personal tax for the year 1928. The mayor's statement follows:

"The announcement by Representative John V. Mahoney that he held receipts for taxes paid by him to the city of Boston was a most unfortunate statement for the representative to make. It would rather suggest the old lines from Sadi:

To tell a falsehood is like the cut of a saber  
For though the wound may heal, the scar of it will always remain.

"The city collector upon further investigation this day informs me that in addition to unpaid poll taxes for 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1932, and for motor vehicle excise taxes for 1929 and 1932, that there is outstanding unpaid a personal tax of \$11.25 for the year 1928, which, with cost and interests, represent a total of \$14.46, and which provided the constable arrests Representative Mahoney will be \$18.46."

"It was to be expected that in the absence of any sound argument in refutation of my statements at the Chamber of Commerce he would resort to his characteristic weapon of slander," said Mahoney. "In my absence from the city he has attempted to take advantage of it. Fortunately, through friends, his thoroughly malicious statement was brought to my attention. I have documentary evidence in the form of cancelled checks from the city treasurer's office to prove that I owe the city nothing. Mayor Curley owes it more than a generation of taxpayers can repay."

The mayor, terming Representative Mahoney an "errand boy and mouthpiece for the corporate and financial interests of the Commonwealth and one who is more interested in developing the theory that the wealthy should enjoy an immunity from bearing their proportional share of the cost of Government," said last night, he did not believe the representative would lie deliberately but had made misstatements due to lack of knowledge of the facts.

Mayor Curley, answering Mahoney's statement that assessed valuations on but before the State board of tax figures for the purpose of keeping down the tax rate, said:

"The statement that property values have been maintained at excessively high values for a long period of years is untrue, as there has been but one increase in a period of twenty-five years to my

knowledge upon property value in suburban Boston and in down-town Boston there has been a general lowering of values during the last three years. The only increase in municipal tax valuations each year is that which has resulted from new construction."

"The demands of various interests, including hotel interests for a reduction in valuations, may properly be traced to the system of soliciting employment of specialists to secure reductions upon a contingency basis, in most cases members of the Real Estate Exchange, the fee to be paid depending upon the amount of the abatement and this has been true not only before the board of assessors but before the State board of tax appeals."

Representative Mahoney had declared he had cancelled checks from the city treasurer to prove he owes the city nothing.

Shortly after Mahoney, who is vice-chairman of the committee on public expenditures, made his attack on Curley to members of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor announced Mahoney had not paid his 1929, 1930, and 1932 poll taxes nor his automobile excise tax, amounting to \$25.69.

#### TERMS SOLON "THRIFTY"

Mayor Curley then ordered the matter placed in the hands of a constable, with the remark that Rep. Mahoney "has been rather thrifty since he entered the Legislature but has been rather negligent in the payment of his tax obligations."

Mahoney predicted that Boston's tax rate this year would be \$35 but said it would be \$60 "if the real estate valuations were reduced to the amount of actual value measured by the cash the property would now bring from a willing purchaser."

He charged that the mayor's support of the \$15,000,000 state relief bond issue, sponsored by the Mayor's Club, was given because Boston's \$4,000,000 share of the issue could be used to conceal the city's real condition.

#### BRANDS STATEMENT UNTRUE

"The address clearly stamps Rep. Mahoney as an errand boy and mouthpiece for the corporate and financial interests of the Commonwealth," Mayor Curley answered in a statement, "and as one who is more interested in developing a system of special privilege for large real estate owners."

"The statement that property values have been maintained at excessive values for a period of years is untrue, as there has been but one increase in a period of 25 years upon property value in suburban Boston and in down-town Boston there has been a general lowering of values during the last three years."

## AMERICAN 8/9/32

# CURLEY FIRES NEW BLASTS AT MAHONEY

Legislator Owes Taxes for Various Years, the Mayor Declares as Arrest Looms

A constable armed with tax bills started out from city hall this afternoon to call on Rep. John V. Mahoney of Dorchester, caustic critic of Mayor Curley, who was reported waiting for the officer in his office at 6 Beacon st.

Along with the constable went another verbal blast from the mayoral offices, the second made in reply to Mahoney's criticism that the mayor was leading Boston to financial disaster through undue inflation of property values.

Said the mayor:

"The announcement by Rep. John V. Mahoney that he held receipts for taxes paid by him to the city of Boston was a most unfortunate statement for the representative to make."

#### COSTS MOUNT UP

It would rather suggest the old lines from Sadi:

"To tell a falsehood is like the cut of a saber,  
"For though the wound may heal, the scar of it will always remain."

"The city collector upon further investigation this day informs me that in addition to unpaid poll taxes for 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1932, and motor vehicle excise taxes for 1929 and 1932 there is outstanding unpaid a personal tax of \$11.52 for the year 1928, which, with costs and interest, represents a total of \$14.46, and which, provided the constable arrests Representative Mahoney, will be \$18.46."

Globe

8/9/32

## CITY JOB BUREAU DUE FOR DISCARD

### Council Fails to Pass \$5000 Appropriation

The ranks of the unemployed bid fair to be swelled within a fortnight by the addition of the hitherto paid seekers of employment for the unemployed of Boston. It is either that or work without pay, for the City Council yesterday flatly refused to appropriate money to keep the Boston Municipal Employment Bureau in operation. There are 15 employes, headed by Director John J. Shields. The weekly payroll is said to be about \$500 and there is \$1000 on hand.

Time and again certain Councilors have charged on the chamber floor that the bureau was a waste of money and that the only jobs they got were in the Hospital Department of the city itself. Incidentally, wires crossed on occasions when City Councilors went seeking the hospital jobs for constituents only to find they had been filled from the Employment Bureau. The filling, it was charged, was with relatives of employes of the unemployment bureau.

Director John J. Shields' only comment was:

"The action of the Council was based on the antipathy of certain Councilors toward a few employes of the bureau and is not an effort to save money. The bureau has functioned better than any municipal employment bureau in the country and has provided more jobs than any bureau in Massachusetts, if not in New England."

### Long Storm Center

During the past two years, every time the Council was asked for cash to run the bureau, things went from bad to worse. A week ago, the Mayor sent in an order asking for \$30,000 to maintain the bureau. That amount was reduced to \$5000 and then the latter amount was tabled.

After a couple of hours of rather harmonious session yesterday, Councilor McGrath moved that the order for \$5000 be taken from the table and immediately it was evident that the bureau was at last near the rocks.

A week ago a Councilor charged that one employee lived in Milton; another was married to a working Boston fireman, and that another employee put her son to work in the City Hospital. Yesterday Dowd charged that in addition to the Milton man, that another employee lived in Brookline. He also charged that one employee had her father and sister working at the City Hospital; a brother at the Haymarket Relief Station and a brother-in-law at the East Boston Relief Hospital, while there were no jobs available to worthy unemployed. He announced he was flatly against the bureau "getting a dime" and said it should be abolished.

### Other Opposition

Councilor Norton registered against the appropriation and suggested that the \$5000 would be better employed for the purchase of 60,000 quarts of milk for children of persons on the welfare rolls of the city.

Councilor Burke offered voting records to show that "the man of Brookline" really lived in Boston, but he, Burke favored the dismissal of

the wife of the Boston fireman, though in justice to others in the bureau, Burke announced he would vote for the order.

A desperate effort to save the appropriation of \$5000 was made by Councilor McGrath, who a week ago led the fight against cash for the bureau.

Fifteen votes were needed if the appropriation order was to save the 15 pay envelopes was to pass. Those favoring the order mustered only 11—Councilors Barker, Burke, Donovan, Englehardt, Gallagher, Gleason, Green, Hein, Lynch, McGrath and Ruby. In view of the fact that the Council adjourned to Sept. 12, the seven men who put the employment force in the ranks of the unemployed were Councilors Curtis, Dowd, Fish, Kelly, Murray, Norton and Rabbits.

### Mayor on Flour Purchase

Councilor Norton of Hyde Park offered an order calling on the Finance Commission to investigate the recent purchase of 5200 barrels of flour at \$3.73 a barrel, the highest of four bidders. The Councilor said the lowest bidder was the American Flour Company at \$3.40 and pointed out that the State bought 22,500 barrels at \$3.34.

It later developed that the Finance Commission had already delved into the matter and had reported to Mayor Curley. The latter answered Chairman Goodwin yesterday as follows:

"The Finance Commission has questioned the advisability of the award by the Supply Department to the Washburn Crosby Company of the contract for the purchase of 5200 barrels of flour, despite the fact that this company was \$1000 higher than the lowest bidder.

"In the absence of the superintendent of supplies, who was on his vacation, I authorized the Department to make this award in view of the fact that after a very careful investigation I discovered that it would be to the city's advantage to accept the highest bidder of four in this case. I consulted with the vice-president of one of the largest chain stores in the country and he informed me that the flour of the Washburn-Crosby Company far excelled the flour of the other bidders that, despite the difference in cost, the city would be the gainer if the flour of the Washburn-Crosby Company was accepted.

"I am solely interested in obtaining the best possible flour for our hospitals and other institutions. My information regarding the flour was received from a most reliable source and I was guided to a large extent by the judgment of the individual who has purchased and sold millions of barrels of flour.

"I am satisfied that the price which the city paid for this grade of flour was a fair and reasonable price and that it would not have been in the city's best interests for the Supply Department to have awarded this contract to any of the other bidders."

### Other Business

An order introduced by Councilor Hein was passed, calling upon the captain of police division 14, to assign three police officers to special duty on Commonwealth av between 8 and 10 a.m. and 4 and 6 p.m. to aid pedestrians. The Councilor said that at the point which he wants patrolled that record shows 147 accidents and six deaths.

The method of numbering houses throughout the City of Boston causes a great loss of time and inconvenience to persons seeking to find numbers according to Councilor Kelly, and he offered an order that a standard size and color of house number to be affixed in a uniform spot on homes, be adopted by the city. If necessary, he

said in view of the fact each numeral would cost only a few cents, that the city pay for them.

Councilor Murray said that a better plan, offered three years ago, was killed. That plan called for painting the house number on the curbing on all accepted streets.

### PAID \$500 BACK TO CITY, BUT PERCH GETS A MONTH

Although Youhanna Perch, a brush maker, has paid back to the city Welfare Department \$500 of \$920 obtained after he had satisfied that department that he was out of employment and needed aid, he was yesterday sentenced by Judge Charles L. Carr in the Municipal Court to serve a month at Deer Island. Policeman Ernest F. Fanjoy said that when he investigated Perch, who lives on Decatur st in the South End, he found that he had \$700 in a bank. John W. Newman, attorney for Perch, told the court that his client was given to understand that if he returned \$500 he would not be prosecuted.

# Mayor, Stung by Tax Critics, Has Constable Trail Mahoney

Legislator Says He Has  
Cancelled Checks--Charges  
Slander

## COMPARED BOSTON WITH FALL RIVER

Mayor Curley, in a statement issued last night, announced that he had directed the city collector to place in the hands of a constable bills for alleged non-payment of taxes against state Representative John V. Mahoney of Boston. This announcement by the mayor followed the attack on the city finances made by the representative at a luncheon at the Boston Chamber of Commerce.

Representative Mahoney, informed of the mayor's statement, was quick in retort. He declared the mayor had resorted to his "characteristic weapon of slander" in lieu of sound refutation of Mahoney's statements; that the representative possessed cancelled checks from the city treasurer's office to prove all his taxes are paid. He concluded his reply with the declaration that "Mayor Curley owes it (the city) more than a generation of taxpayers can repay."

The mayor charged that an investigation of the tax records had disclosed negligence by the legislator in payment of poll taxes for 1929, 1930 and 1932 and an automobile excise tax for 1931.

Representative Mahoney, speaking as vice-chairman of the joint special committee on public expenditures at the luncheon, directed an unusually harsh attack on the mayor's conduct of the city's finances. Concerning his statements, Mayor Curley declared Mahoney was guilty of false statements when he told the luncheon audience that Boston's municipal finances under the current administration were headed for the same disaster as befell the city of Fall River.

The mayor declared that he was unable to account for the hostility of Representative Mahoney and his committee associates who have been directing their fire at Boston's finances for a period of two weeks. Mahoney's charges, he insisted, were due to his lack of knowledge of conditions.

### MAYOR'S STATEMENT

Supplementing his direct reply to Mahoney's charge of incompetence in the operation of the city's finances, the mayor released this statement on the legislator's tax obligations:

Upon examination of unpaid taxes I find that Representative John V. Mahoney has been rather thrifty since he entered the Legislature, but has been rather negligent in the payment of his tax obligations, since he failed to make



REP. JOHN V. MAHONEY

payment of motor vehicle excise taxes due upon a Buick sedan purchased by him in 1931 and upon which, at the present time, there is due the city of Boston a tax of \$25.69.

I find likewise upon examination that Representative Mahoney has failed to pay his poll taxes for 1929, 1930 and 1932, and since he would have the public believe that he is actuated solely by altruistic motives in his criticism of municipal administration, I, actuated by like motives, have directed the city collector to place the collection of those taxes in the hands of a constable.

In his address before a group of members of the Boston Real Estate Exchange, Mahoney stated that "the city of Boston, despite the honeyed sophistry that comes so assuringly from City Hall every time its administrative policy is criticised, is heading for an open switch on the Fall River line."

He charged that the present false values of property valuations established by the assessors eventually would produce a financial disaster comparable to that which forced the state to place a commission in charge of the city of Fall River. The mayor, he charged, was selfish in his quest for a \$15,000,000 bond issue for relief for harassed cities as Boston would receive \$4,000,000 out of such an issue.

The mayor branded as untrue Mahoney's charge that property values have been maintained at excessively high values, citing a general lowering of values during the last three years as proof.

The only increase in municipal tax valuations, he insisted, may be traced to new construction.

Intelligent co-operation by the Legislature, he stated, would have permitted the city to offset increasing expenditures. He enumerated the factors responsible for the increase in the cost of municipal government as:

- 1.—Public welfare and soldier relief expenditures.
- 2.—A 30 per cent. increase in the state tax.
- 3.—Boston Elevated deficit.
- 4.—Reduction of state income tax receipts.
- 5.—Reduction in state corporation tax receipts.
- 6.—Imposition on city of burden of collecting old age assistance tax.
- 7.—Reductions in valuations on real estate granted by the state board of tax appeals.

"The assertion," he said "by Representative Mahoney that a \$15,000,000 bond issue to relieve the owners of real estate from an increase in taxation this year is vicious in that Boston would receive a major portion of allotment is both pathetic and unpardonable. The system of apportionment as determined upon as equitable is in conformity with the same ratio that the expenses of the state tax is levied."

Mahoney's address, the mayor said, stamps him as "the errand boy and mouthpiece for the corporate and financial interests of the commonwealth and as one who is more interested in developing the theory that the wealthy should enjoy an immunity from bearing their proportional share of the cost of government."

### MAHONEY'S STATEMENT

Representative Mahoney was located late last night at his summer home in Wrentham. His statement in full follows:

Mayor Curley's statement regarding alleged non-payment of my personal taxes is a typically brazen falsehood. It is to be expected that in the absence of any sound argument in refutation of my statements at the Chamber of Commerce today he would resort to his characteristic weapon of slander.

In my absence from the city, he has attempted to take advantage of it. Fortunately through friends his thoroughly malicious statement was brought to my attention.

I have the documentary evidence, in the form of cancelled checks from the city treasurer's office to prove that I owe the city nothing. Mayor Curley owes it more than a generation of taxpayers can repay.

unt GLOBE

Post

8/9/32

"A perusal of these eight factors responsible for the increased cost in the administering of the affairs of Boston indicates clearly that neither myself nor any official connected with the city is responsible for the increase in the cost of administering public affairs in Boston. Seven of the eight factors may be directly chargeable to the acts of the Legislature and the remaining one, namely, increase in public welfare and soldiers' relief requirements, is due to the industrial depression for which, surely, Representative Mahoney cannot hold me, wholly, responsible, in view of the fact that depression has been general throughout the United States and the world.

"Provided the Legislature had exercised the same intelligent direction in effecting economies, and provided Representative Mahoney and certain of his associates had aided the city, they were supposed to represent, in their endeavors to effect economies, it might have been possible to offset the increasing expenditures levied upon Boston as a consequence of the wasteful extravagances of the Legislature."

#### Denies Owing Taxes

Representative Mahoney, reached at Wrentham last night, denied he owed any taxes. He said:

"Mayor Curley's statement regarding alleged nonpayment of my personal taxes is a falsehood. It was to be expected in the absence of any sound argument in refutation of my statements at the Chamber of Commerce today that he would resort to such an attack.

"In my absence from the city, he has attempted to take advantage of it. Fortunately through friends, this malicious statement was brought to my attention. I have the documentary evidence in the form of cancelled checks from the city treasurer to prove that I owe the city nothing."

# CONSTABLE FOR CRITIC OF CURLEY

## Mayor Says Mahoney Has Unpaid Tax

### Bills

## STARTS OUT TO COLLECT THEM

## Action Result of an Attack on City's Finances

Mayor Curley last night ordered a tax collector's constable on the trail of Representative John V. Mahoney of Dorchester shortly after the latter in a public address had accused the Mayor of leading Boston towards financial disaster through the inflation of property values which would make it impossible for the city to collect a large part of the real estate taxes this year.

### SAYS TAXES UNPAID

Representative Mahoney, who is also vice-chairman of the joint legislative committee on public expenditures, had no sooner finished his attack upon the Mayor at a meeting of members of the Boston Chamber of Commerce and the Boston Real Estate Exchange, than the Mayor replied that the legislator had not paid his poll taxes for 1929, 1930 and 1932, nor had he paid the city his automobile excise tax, amounting to \$25.69.

So the Mayor ordered the collection of the Representative's taxes placed in the hands of a constable and issued a public statement, declaring:

"Upon examination of unpaid taxes I find that Representative John V. Mahoney of Dorchester has been rather thrifty since he entered the Legislature, but has been rather negligent in the payment of his tax obligations, since he failed to make payment of motor vehicle excise taxes due upon (Buick) sedan purchased by him in 1931 and upon which, at the present time, there is due the city of Boston a tax of \$25.69.

"I find, likewise, upon examination, that Representative John V. Mahoney has failed to pay his poll taxes for 1929, 1930 and 1932, and since he would have

the public believe that we is actuated solely by altruistic motives in his criticism of municipal administration, I, actuated by like motives, have directed the city collector to place the collection of these taxes in the hands of a constable."

### Predicts Boost in Taxes

In his address at the Chamber of Commerce meeting, Mahoney predicted that Boston's tax rate this year would be \$85, but he contended that it would be \$80 "if the real estate valuations were reduced to the amount of actual value, measured by the cash the property would now bring from a willing purchaser."

He charged that the Mayor was supporting the \$15,000,000 State relief bond issue sponsored by the Mayors' Club, because Boston would get \$4,000,000 out of it and use the money to conceal the real condition of the city.

In his final hit at Mayor Curley, he warned that the next Mayor of Boston would have to settle a deficit of \$20,000,000 in his term because of the city's lack of foresight in the past three years.

Replying to the attack, Mayor Curley then issued a longer statement, in which he asserted, "The address clearly stamps Representative Mahoney as an errand boy and mouthpiece for the corporate and financial interests of the Commonwealth, and as one who is more interested in developing a system of special privilege for large real estate owners, unmindful of the fact that, unless all enjoy the same equity, the small home-owner, in his own district, will be obliged to shoulder the major portion of the burden which the wealthy evade.

### Denies Valuation Increases

"The statement that property values have been maintained at excessive values for a long period of years is untrue, as there has been but one increase in a period of 25 years, to my knowledge, upon property value in suburban Boston, and in downtown Boston there has been a general lowering of values during the last three years.

"The only increase in municipal tax valuations each year is that which has resulted from new construction."

Denying the charge that the city had made no attempt to install a scientific assessment system, the Mayor stated that the members of the Chamber of Commerce and the Real Estate Exchange were aware of the fact that he had adopted a scientific system which would save the city \$800,000. He declared that he did not believe that the "Representative would lie deliberately, but had made misstatements due to his lack of knowledge of the facts."

### Puts Blame on Legislature

Disowning responsibility for the increase in the cost of conducting the affairs of the city this year, Mayor Curley stated, "Provided the Legislature had exercised the same intelligent direction in effecting economies, and provided Representative Mahoney and certain of his associates had aided the city they were supposed to represent in their endeavors to effect economies, it might have been possible to offset the increasing expenditures levied upon Boston as a consequence of the wasteful extravagance of the Legislature."

Eight factors were responsible for the city's increased expenditures and seven of the eight were chargeable to the acts of the Legislature, the Mayor insisted. The one factor for which he agreed neither he nor the Legislature was responsible, was the extraordinary increase in public welfare and soldiers' relief demands.

"A perusal of the eight factors responsible for the increased cost in administering the affairs of Boston," stated the Mayor, "indicates clearly that neither myself nor any official connected with the city is responsible for the increase in the cost of administering public affairs in Boston."

Ghobie

8/9/32

# CALLS MAHONEY AN "ERRAND BOY"

**Mouthpiece for Wealthy,  
Says Mayor Curley**

**Orders Taxes Owed by  
Representative Paid**

Bitterly lashing back at Representative John V. Mahoney, Democrat, Ward 13, Dorchester, vice chairman of the Special Legislative Recess Committee on Public Expenditures, for what he termed "misstatements" made by the Dorchester legislator in an address before a committee of the Boston Chamber of Commerce and the Boston Real Estate Exchange yesterday noon, Mayor Curley last night declared the address "clearly stamps Representative Mahoney as the errand boy and mouthpiece for the corporate and financial interest of the Commonwealth."

The Mayor also attacked Mahoney as "one who is more interested in developing a system of special privilege for large real estate owners, unmindful apparently of the fact that unless all enjoy the same equity, the small home owner in his own district will be obliged to shoulder the major portion of the burden which the wealthy evade."

### Says Mahoney Owes Taxes

Mayor Curley also charged Mahoney had failed to pay certain of his own taxes and announced that he had directed the City Collector to place the collection of these taxes in the hands of a constable.

The latter surprise move, the Mayor explained as follows:

"Upon examination of unpaid taxes I find that Representative John V. Mahoney of Dorchester has been

rather thrifty since he entered the Legislature but has been rather negligent in the payment of his tax obligations since he failed to make payment of motor vehicle excise taxes due upon a sedan purchased by him in 1931, and upon which, at the present time, there is due the city of Boston a tax of \$25.69.

"I find likewise upon examination, that Representative Mahoney has failed to pay his poll taxes for 1929, 1930 and 1932 and since he would have the public believe that he is actuated solely by altruistic motives in his criticism of municipal administration I, actuated by like motives, have directed today the City Collector to place the collection of these taxes in the hands of a constable."

### Mahoney's Attack

The address which provoked the attack of Mayor Curley was made at an informal luncheon in the directors' room of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Mahoney declared that "Boston is headed direct for the same financial disaster as Fall River" and that the financial collapse of the city of Boston will result directly from the inflation of property values. He blamed Mayor Curley for the plight of the city."

Summarizing his answer to the address, Mayor Curley said:

"To anyone privileged to either listen to or read what was said by the Representative, there is but one conclusion that could be reasonably arrived at, namely, that the Special Committee on Public Expenditures do not welcome suggestions as to how savings may be effected, and this, plus an animosity for which I have been unable to find a reason, unquestionably responsible for the charges made."

Another statement by Mahoney which riled the Mayor was as follows: "The discouraging thing about the present city administration is that it has made no attempt, save in spots, to approach the problem from its most vital angle. Three years ago a plan for a wholesale revaluation of the city was discarded by the present Mayor as too expensive. I am told that it would have cost \$1,000,000 to do a thorough job. The irony of the situation is that the same man who turned down that proposition because of the cost is deaf to all appeals for economy in the really consequential expenses of the City Government."

### Engineers Now at Work

Replying to this statement, Mayor Curley said:

"The statement that even an attempt at the adoption of a scientific system of block assessment in the Assessing Department had not been made by me, must have been amusing to the membership of the committee before whom he appeared, in view of the fact that it was at the suggestions of these bodies that the engineering force, engaged by me nearly a year ago, have been at work upon this project to the present time. Notwithstanding the tremendous demands made for relief, it is my purpose to continue this work, and I have every reason to believe that it will be possible to effect a saving as estimated in excess of \$800,000 over the plan contemplated before my assuming office in 1930."

"For the benefit of the Representative, whom I do not believe would lie deliberately, and who evidently has made misstatements due to his lack of knowledge of the facts, arrangements had been made with a certain university professor for the establishment of a scientific block system for determining real estate values in Boston,

at a cost of \$1,000,000 to the city. Upon assuming office in 1930, I conferred with the professor in question and arranged for the abandonment of the verbal contract without loss to the city, believing then and now, as the work has progressed more than 50 percent, that it would be completed with a saving to the taxpayers of \$800,000.

### Inflation of Values"

Mr. Mahoney also said in his Chamber of Commerce speech that "the continued inflation of Boston property values is as vicious a thing as has happened in the history of the State, with the exception of the Fall River case, where disaster followed the boosting of valuations from around \$124,000,000 to \$214,000,000 within five or six years. You know what happened there."

To this the Mayor replied:

"The statement that property values have been maintained at excessively high values for a long period of years is untrue, as there has been but one increase in a period of 25 years to my knowledge upon property value in suburban Boston, and in downtown Boston, there has been a general lowering of values during the last three years. The only increase in municipal tax valuations each year, is that which has resulted from new construction. The demands of various interests, including hotel interests for a reduction in valuations, may properly be traced to the system of soliciting employment of specialists to secure reductions upon a contingency basis, in most cases members of the Real Estate Exchange, the fee to be paid depending upon the amount of the abatement, and this has been true not only before the Board of Assessors but before the State Board of Tax Appeals."

### Huge Bond Issue

Mr. Mahoney also said that the \$15,000,000 bond issue, which he said the Boston Mayor has forced on the Mayors' Club, is "a colossal piece of effrontery to the taxpayers, which seeks to have the State endorse the improvident methods of the past with no guarantee of any sort that they will be abandoned in the future." He also said that one of the reasons Mayor Curley favors this bond issue is because he knows Boston will get the lion's share of it, about \$4,000,000, and this money can be used to conceal the real condition of the city of Boston.

Mayor Curley termed this assertion "both pathetic and unreasonable." He said the system of apportionment "as determined upon as equitable by myself and my associates of the Mayors' Club is in conformity with the same ratio that the expenses of the State tax is levied upon the cities and towns."

The Mayor also said: "Representative Mahoney should be familiar with the factors that are responsible for the increase in the cost of conducting the affairs of the City of Boston for year 1932, and which are here presented:

"Extraordinary increases in Public Welfare and Soldiers Relief requirements; a 30 percent increase in the State tax; extraordinary elevated deficit to be borne by the cities and towns in the Boston Elevated Railway district; the large reduction in the amount received from the State on account of income taxes; substantial declining of the receipts from the State on account of corporation taxes; the non-receipt of any street railway tax from the State; the imposition by the Legislature of the burden of collecting a \$1 poll tax to provide for old age assistance; the huge reductions in valuations on real estate granted by the State Board of Tax Appeals."



JOHN V. MAHONEY  
Representative Who Attacked Mayor Curley's  
Financial Policies

POST 8/9/32

## Defends Flour Purchase

### Curley Says He Wanted Best for City and Gave Contract to Bidder \$1000 Above the Lowest

Defending the purchase of flour for the city at a cost of about \$1000 in excess of the lowest bid, Mayor Curley last night informed the Finance Commission that he was "solely interested in obtaining the best possible flour for our hospitals and other institutions."

The Finance Commission, in a report submitted to the Mayor by Chairman Frank A. Goodwin, protested against the city's purchase of 5200 barrels of flour at a price of \$19,008.08, when the lowest bid was at \$17,996.52.

It was said the city paid \$3.73 a barrel, while the State bought flour about the same time for \$3.34 a barrel.

The purchase also drew the fire of Representative John V. Mahoney, vice-chairman of the Legislative recess committee on public expenditures.

### Mayor Defends Purchase

Replying to the Finance Commission, the Mayor said:

"The Finance Commission has questioned the advisability of the award by the supply department to the Washburn-Crosby Company of the contract for the purchase of 5200 barrels of flour, despite the fact that this company was \$1000 higher than the lowest bidder.

"In the absence of the superintendent of supplies, who was on his vacation, I authorized the department to make this award in view of the fact that after a very careful investigation, I discovered that it would be to the city's advantage to accept the highest bidder of four in this case.

"I am satisfied that the price which the city paid for this grade of flour was a fair and reasonable price, and that it would not have been in the city's best interests for the supply department to have awarded this contract to any of the other bidders."

RECORD 8/9/32

## CURLEY ANSWERS WITH CONSTABLE

Mayor Curley's answer to the attack made upon his administration by Rep. John V. Mahoney of Dorchester was brief and to the point yesterday.

He placed Mahoney's alleged unpaid motor excise tax of \$25.69 for 1931, and poll taxes for 1929, 1930 and 1932 in the hands of a constable for collection.

"Since he would have the public believe that he is actuated solely by altruistic motives in his criticism of municipal administration, I, actuated by like motives, have directed the city collector to take this action," the mayor said.

Mahoney speaking as a member of the special recess committee on public expenditures before the committee on municipal finance of



Rep. Mahoney Mayor Curley

the Boston Chamber of Commerce and the Boston Real Estate Exchange, blamed Curley's administration for increased expenditures.

The mayor listed as the prime factors in municipal increases extraordinary welfare requirements, the Boston Elevated deficit, 30 per cent increase in state tax, reduction in income tax receipts, reduction in corporation tax receipts, non-receipts of any street railway tax, imposition of the burden of collecting \$1 old age poll tax and huge reductions in valuations granted by the state board of tax appeals.

## New Bureau of Cops Begin City Aid Probe

Charged with elimination of tricksters and schemers from among the 20,000 Bostonians now receiving welfare aid, the new Bureau of Investigation of Public Aid, created by Police Commr. Hultman, starts functioning today. A list of 500 suspects awaits their investigation.

The new bureau, containing a dozen picked men, considered the best sleuths in the department, is headed by Capt. Stephen J. Flaherty. Others are Lieuts. James J. Hinckley, James P. Daley, Bernard Graham and Stephen J. Gillis; Sergts. Coleman Joyce and James E. Crowley, and Patrolmen Hans Brunick, Raymond Thayer, Earl Button and Roy Bates.

In the general order announcing transfer of the men concerned to the new bureau, Commr. Hultman also ordered transfer of Capt. William Lewis from the record bureau to bureau of criminal investigation to succeed Capt. Flaherty.

Questionnaires to be filled out by all families receiving aid will be distributed by route patrolmen. Work of the new bureau will follow closely on this checkup.

HERALD

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## Curley Wails at Wall Street Boom; Says It Shows Faith in Roosevelt

The present "boiling stock market" serves the double purpose of indicating the desire of Wall street to keep President Hoover in the White House and the confidence of financial interests in Gov. Roosevelt, according to a statement by Mayor Curley in an address yesterday morning at the 26th general convention of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Beverage Dispensers' In-

ternational Alliance in the Hotel Bradford.

Immediate repeal of the 18th amendment and support of the "political party and its candidate for President who in their platform declare for the immediate repeal of the 18th amendment" were included in the proposal reported by Edward Flore of Buffalo general president. They were accepted without debate by the 225 delegates.

Globe 8/9/32

# HEAD OF HOTEL MEN'S UNION URGES SUPPORT OF ROOSEVELT

Asks International Alliance, Meeting in Boston, to Work  
For Democratic Ticket Because It Is Wet—  
Speech May Start Fireworks

An invitation to address the 26th general convention of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes and Beverage Dispensers' International Alliance, now in session at the Hotel Bradford, has been accepted by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, who will speak at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Edward Flore, general president of the union, issued an invitation to all local labor leaders to attend the session.

The convention opened yesterday with speeches of welcome by Mayor Curley, Traffic Commissioner Conry, Governor's Councilor James H. Brennan, Daniel J. Tobin, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters; James T. Moriarity, president of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor, and J. Arthur Moriarity, president of the Boston Central Labor Union.

## Would Back Democrats

Pres. Flore in his annual report, without mentioning names, recommended that the union and its friends support Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Democratic candidates next November.

This recommendation came in the section of the report dealing with "Prohibition" and reads:

"We recommend to this convention that it should give expression of approval to the political party and its candidate for President, which in its platform declares in no uncertain terms for the immediate repeal of the 18th Amendment; for the return to State rights and for the modification of the Volstead law, which will permit the manufacture and sale under State supervision of a beverage with reasonable alcoholic content."

The question of repeal of the 18th Amendment never causes a debate in this Union, as the members are unanimously in favor of such action, but the recommendation to support a certain political party is expected to be the cause of considerable discussion, as among the delegates it is said are men high in the councils of the Republican party.

## Denounces Prohibition

"Prohibition has not proved its worth. It has not emptied our jails; instead it has filled them to overflowing. It has not eased our economic problems; rather it has added to them. It has not lessened the drag on our national treasury; instead it has added to it. It has not promoted the morals of the Nation; on the contrary, because of its criminal enterprise has been built up to such magnitude and wealth that it successfully challenges the power of all law to suppress and control it."

"Prohibition has proved itself no longer worthy of being considered

even an experiment. An ever increasing sentiment holds it to be a disastrous failure, no matter how noble may have been its purpose. The task is to get rid of it. The machinery of politics put it into the Constitution and only the machinery of politics can take it out of the Constitution.

"In the recent political conventions held in Chicago, one party proposed a resubmission of the question to constitutional conventions, but with a complex plan for national return to State control. While this plan professes to return the control to the people, it gives Congress a control that will keep this a national political question. No action drawn as to invite such opposing interpretations is safe to barter with. It is necessarily dangerous.

"No difference of opinion can exist as to the meaning of the other platform. It is undeniably wet. It favors the repeal of the 18th Amendment. It demands that Congress shall immediately propose an amendment to effect such repeal. It would place upon the States the duty of regulation of the traffic through complete supervision and control. It would place with the Federal Government only the duty of protecting the dry States from invasion of prohibited goods from other States. Such protection was given by Federal laws before national prohibition and those laws have, we believe, never been repealed."

On the subject of unemployment the report in part reads:

"The solution must come and can only come in the public moneys reaching the working classes of our people; by public building, by the release of moneys to business and industry that will divert same into operating channels that will provide work for the unemployed; the establishment of the five-day week and if necessary the six-hour day until such time as those desiring work are engaged in profitable employment.

"There must be a mass movement started—Government, agriculture, business and industry. Banks, and if not banks, Government must lead in the movement.

## Mayor's Address

Mayor Curley in opening his speech said: "The ordinary workers are not responsible for the conditions under which the country is now suffering, a condition brought about by the 'Captains of Industry' in their efforts to bring a happy and prosperous nation to its knees from the position the workers succeeded in reaching during the war."

"The only panacea for unemployment is wages and work, but every move made during the past four years to bring this about was only made when forced by public opinion."

## Urge Registration

"In order to make this opinion effective we must register every person eligible to vote and have them go to the polls next November, as the person who has the right to vote and does not exercise this right is a greater enemy to the country than the most radical Red yet discovered.

"The boiling stock market today is not only indicative of the desire of Wall Street to keep the great engineer at Washington, but is also proof that his chief opponent, Gov. Roosevelt, is not looked upon with fear by the money interests of the country.

"No matter what the reason for this stock market activity, it is doing some good, and that is the relieving of the fear that has been in the minds of so many people as to when the bolt of bad luck would strike them. This fear has been dissipated by the market activity.

## Relief Program

"Nearly two years ago I had a planning organization at work in this city to discuss and devise ways and means of bringing relief to the country. On this commission the 22 universities in this State were represented. One meeting a month for five months brought

out four major recommendations.

"These recommendations were first, a Federal industrial planning commission to safeguard against future depressions; second, the five-day week; third, the six-hour day, and fourth, a major construction program.

"I was on the committee that submitted the recommendations to President Hoover in May, 1931, but it was not until 10 days ago that he made the first move toward even having them considered. This is the rate of speed that can be expected by the people of the country until a change is made in the administration of the country."

## HERALD 8/9/32 CITY EMPLOYMENT BUREAU DOOMED

Seven Councilmen Block Appropriation of \$5000 to Keep It Open

The knell of the municipal employment bureau was tolled yesterday by seven members of the city council who blocked an appropriation of \$5000 needed to continue the bureau.

During the debate it was charged that the employment bureau has been able only to secure jobs in the City Hospital department.

Councillors Norton and Dowd led the fight to discontinue the bureau, advocating the expenditure of the \$5000 for 60,000 quarts of milk for the children of the unemployed. The seven councillors who blocked the appropriation were Dowd, Norton, Curtis, Fish, Kelly, Murray and Roberts.

Councillor Norton introduced an order calling on the city finance commission to investigate why 5200 barrels of flour were purchased from a bidder who bid \$1000 more than others.

Councillor Hein introduced an order for posting of policemen at various points on Commonwealth Avenue during the rush hour for the protection of pedestrians, and Councillor Kelly offered an order for visible numbering of houses on accepted streets by the city.

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# TAX ROW KILLS MAHONEY BOOM FOR MAYOR

Group Had Planned to Launch Legislator as Candidate to Succeed Curley

By BERNARD J. DOHERTY

In turning the tables on Representative John V. Mahoney of Dorchester, Mayor Curley wittingly or unwittingly broke up the start of a boom for Mahoney as next mayor of Boston, it was revealed today.

The Mahoney speech at the Chamber of Commerce, in which he attacked the Curley administration, was looked upon by a group, mostly interested in tax reforms, as the initial Mahoney wedge.

They liked the address and were preparing to advance him when the mayor's counter attack took them off their feet and payment of \$59.86 in back taxes by Mahoney completed the rout.

## PLANS TO PAY UP

Although Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman and City Collector William M. Mc Morrow declared today that they would not compel Mahoney to pay immediately his motor excise tax for 1932, amounting to \$32.69, and his 1932 poll tax, Mahoney himself said they would be paid promptly.

"The 1932 motor excise tax, notice of which I received only a few weeks ago, shall be paid immediately," the representative said. "So will any other demand the city might make. That shall be my contribution toward economy."

## "EXCEPTION" NOW

"I appreciate the tense situation which exists and although the average public will not be called upon to pay this tax immediately, I feel that I am an exception now and will make payment at once."

Corporation Counsel Silverman said, however:

"We do not contemplate any further action against Representative Mahoney at this time. He will be treated like every other citizen with reference to his 1932 taxes. We will not persecute him."

## New Subway Would Give Work to 3000

Early action by trustees of the Boston Elevated Co., on plans for the \$8,500,000 Huntington Ave. subway extension is to be expected. Mayor Curley was informed to lay by Col. Thomas F. Sullivan of the Boston transit commission.

Sullivan stated that he has already submitted estimates as to cost and type of construction to the trustees. Mayor Curley stated that 1000 men will be employed on the project by Nov. 1, and 300 by Jan. 1, next.

## Mayor Curley Puts 22 Rodmen to Work

Twenty-two young men, successful candidates in the recent civil service examination for positions as rodmen in the municipal service, were today given temporary appointments of three months by Mayor Curley. They take over their new duties tomorrow at wages of \$18 a week.

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## Mahoney Tips Constable as He Pays Taxes

Paying under protest, Rep. John V. Mahoney, of Dorchester, yesterday "tipped" City Constable William J. Mitchell 80 cents and received in return a receipt for payment in full of \$59.86 which the city tax collection office claims he owed.

Immediately after payment Mahoney returned to the attack on Mayor Curley's administration of city affairs, asking why the purchasing department of the city does not allow competition among the dealers for city supplies, and said he would seek to recover the cash he had just paid.

"I am certain I have paid these taxes," said Mahoney when Constable Mitchell presented the bills for payment. He then made the constable write the notation on the bills that they were paid under protest. When the constable presented a bill of \$12.20 for his work in collecting the taxes Mahoney gave him an 80 cent tip.

The taxes he paid yesterday were poll taxes for 1928, 1929, 1930; personal tax for 1928, and motor excise tax for 1929 and 1932.

# MACKEREL PLAN SLAIN BY CURLEY

Purchase of Fish for Jobless Futile Idea, He Says

The suggestion that mackerel, now at one of the lowest prices in years at the Boston Fish Pier, be purchased in large quantities by the city and distributed to the unemployed, made yesterday by City Councillor Clement A. Norton of Hyde Park, was termed "utterly without merit" by Mayor Curley last night.

## SUGGESTED TO MAYOR

Councillor Norton's suggestion was made in a communication to Mayor Curley. The communication stated that on Monday mackerel sold for half a cent a pound at the Fish Pier, while fishing boats were being requested not to bring any more mackerel to the city for the present. Dealers asserted that the price was higher than half a cent.

"The distribution of aid is under the control of the Department of Public Welfare," Mayor Curley said. "I know of no reason why we should demean the beneficiaries of public aid who are victims of conditions over which they have no control in this manner. I see no merit in Councillor Norton's suggestion."

Mayor Curley went on to explain that a certain sum of money is allotted weekly to those receiving public aid, which they may use as they see fit to purchase the necessities of life. There is no reason why mackerel should be distributed to those receiving aid money, with which they may purchase what they see fit without being restricted to any one type of food, Mayor Curley said.

Councillor Norton's communication read:

Dear Mr. Mayor:

Yesterday mackerel sold for half a cent a pound at the Boston Fish Pier, the lowest figure within the memory of any official on the Boston water front.

## Explains Plan in Detail

Fishing vessels on the Grand Banks, with plenty of mackerel available, were requested not to bring any more into Boston for the time being.

With over 100,000 men, women and children in Boston today asking the city for something to eat, I would respectfully suggest that you consider the advisability of having the city purchase mackerel to be distributed to the families of the unemployed. Such a procedure would benefit the city financially as well as the fishermen, and provide a splendid food for the unemployed and their families.

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## REARDON TAKES POST OF SECRETARY FOR BOSTON STREET COMMISSIONERS



CORNELIUS A. REARDON  
New Secretary to Boston Board of Street Commissioners

Cornelius A. Reardon assumed his new duties as secretary of the Board of Street Commissioners at City Hall yesterday. He found his desk banked of the staffs of the Mayor's office, the office of the Street Commissioners, and others.

Mr Reardon has been secretary to Mayor Curley.

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### Reforms Begin at Home

REGARDLESS of the merits of their cause, critics of Mayor Curley chose a vulnerable advocate in the person of Representative John V. Mahoney of Dorchester who, styling himself as a spokesman for taxpayers, criticised the city government.

The city collector charged Mahoney, himself, with having left unpaid his own taxes running as far back as 1928.

The public has difficulty in understanding the merits of any problem when political campaigns are afoot. It may be that all is not right in Boston affairs. We know for a certainty that Representative Mahoney and his colleagues on Beacon Hill have not given any great relief to taxpayers. State expenses have attained dizzy heights and Representative Mahoney might relieve Boston's burden by reducing the amount which this city is called upon annually to pay for legislative extravagances.

## MAHONEY PAYS UNDER PROTEST

Gives \$72.86 on Alleged  
Back Taxes to City

To Seek Abatement—Throws  
Tip to Collector's Agent

Asks If Mayor Will Save  
With Competitive Bids

Attorney John V. Mahoney, 6 Beacon st, who Monday attacked the administration of Mayor Curley and was in turn accused by the Mayor of failing to pay his taxes, was called on yesterday to pay alleged overdue tax bills. Mr Mahoney paid, saying he did so under protest and would ask an abatement later.

Yesterday afternoon William Mitchell, attached to the office of the city tax collector, called on Mr Mahoney at his Beacon-st office with the bills. Mr Mahoney gave him \$72.86 and threw in a little kidding, a smile and an 80-cent tip. The tax bills included three poll taxes, one for personal property and two for excise taxes. The taxes amounted to \$59.86, the balance being interest and constable fees.

These taxes were as follows: Poll tax for 1928, \$3.23; poll tax for 1929, \$3.11; poll tax for 1930, \$2.99; personal tax for 1928, \$14.97; excise tax for 1929, \$32.77, and a tax on a car of \$2.78. These were the only claims made on Mr Mahoney.

Mr Mahoney said that he doesn't think he owes the city any money on taxes, but that he would pay under protest. He said that he hadn't had a chance to examine papers at his former office or at his home. He added that he will take steps to recover the money, but that when the city says he owes it money he must pay, and later seek an abatement.

"Now that the city has saved this money," he remarked, "what will Curley do in other avenues? How about purchasing supplies without competition?"

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is involved illustrates the vicious system of tax-gathering, with its outrageous fees, which have been practiced upon so many of our people in these hard times and which the Boston Evening American has protested and denounced.

Our people have hard enough struggle to pay their ordinary taxes without imposing upon them extraneous and inconsiderate expenses which make their personal lot more difficult and which enrage them against the government to which they are urged to be complacently loyal.

The tax system has been notoriously abused by the "formal and legal" practices which have been allowed to grow up into an out-and-out racket, with pseudo public officials as chief racketeers.

The public pays plenty in taxes. They pay plenty for the expenses of the tax departments. And these tax bills, even though they be delinquents, ought to be collected by the regularly-paid employes by whom no extra fees could be assessed for their personal gain.

Or if there is a penalty, the State should get it, not blood-thirsty constables and conspiring lawyers.

This is a racket the Legislature should and must eliminate.

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## Beaten Tax Constable Stays at Home to Hide Marred Beauty

Even putting on his best face wasn't quite enough today for Constable William J. Mitchell, so he decided to remain at home with his battered countenance, while the reason of yesterday's attack on him continued to be a mystery.

Nor has there been any investigation of the mystery, nor will there be unless Mayor Curley demands one, or himself starts one, on his return from New York tomorrow.

Police declared that no complaint regarding the assault in City Hall has been made to them, and acting Mayor Edward M. Gallagher, president of the City Council, stated that if Capt. Martin King of Milk st. station is asked to probe the slugging of Mitchell, the quest must come from the Mayor.

Just as no one ever has come forward with a lucid answer to the ancient question: "Who struck

Billy Patterson?" the answer to the question "Who struck Billy Mitchell," may never be known.

Mitchell reiterated today that he knows he was struck, however, and he said sportingly that his countenance was so out of true as a result of the City Hall episode that he believed he was not presentable yet for public consumption and therefore would keep his face behind his home shutters.

"When I collected that \$72.86 in back taxes from Representative John Mahoney I thought I'd be in the limelight just for that one day," said Mitchell, "but I guess no man can tell what trouble his face is going to get him into."

Rep. Mahoney expressed today sympathy of Constable Mitchell. He first learned of the attack, he said, when he saw the story in the newspapers.

"I have no personal feeling against Constable Mitchell," Mahoney said. "His business with me was just his duty. I'm sorry for him."

Mitchell reiterated that he does not know who hit him or how he came to be hit. He had started to step out of a telephone booth, he said—and then he woke up in the Relief Hospital, where he had been taken by two City Hall policemen. They told him someone had "put the slug" on him.

"Just some nice people, I guess," said Mitchell in protesting that he has no enemies and that he knows of no person who has taken offense through his collecting of delinquent taxes.

## CURLEY MAKES CAMPAIGN FILM

Portrays "Forgotten Man"  
—Gives Roosevelt 40  
of 48 States

NEW YORK, Aug. 12 (AP)—Mayor Curley of Boston, who on Sept. 1 will start a campaign tour for Gov. Roosevelt which will extend to the Pacific coast, became a movie actor in Democracy's cause for seven minutes today.

He made a talking picture of "The Forgotten Man," who he identified as "the 10,000,000 who are unemployed and walking the streets."

He said he had seen the Forgotten Man 2000 strong in the bread line at Times square, along Wacker avenue, Chicago, and on the Anacostia plain at Washington.

"I am confident," he said, "that Gov. Roosevelt will take the Forgotten Man out of American life and restore equal opportunity to all."

Mayor Curley predicted in the talking picture that Gov. Roosevelt would carry 40 of the 48 states, and one of the states he would carry was Massachusetts.

The Boston mayor said that President Hoover's statement in his acceptance speech that he favored prohibition change would alienate the many Republican drys in Massachusetts. He predicted that William D. Upshaw, prohibition candidate for the presidency, would receive 150,000 votes in the state, most of them drawn from the Republican ranks.

Besides making the talking picture Mayor Curley conferred with Democratic National Chairman James A. Farley and Robert Jackson, head of the speakers' bureau, about the itinerary of his coming campaign tour. The itinerary, if decided upon, was not announced.

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## G. O. P. CLAIMS AMUSE CURLEY

**Mayor Scoffs at Hebert Statement Hoover Will Carry Northeast**

Commenting on a statement by Senator Felix Hebert of Rhode Island, eastern campaign manager for the G. O. P. in Washington, that New York and New England, including Massachusetts and Rhode Island, would give President Hoover majorities in the November election, Mayor Curley said today:

"I have learned through contact with New York citizens that there is every indication that Franklin D. Roosevelt, as a candidate for President, will carry New York by a greater majority than he polled in 1930 as a candidate for Governor, when he won by more than 700,000 votes.

"So far as New England is concerned, the New England states have been leaders in every movement for the welfare of the American people and I am satisfied that, regardless of party, they will be in agreement in favor of modification of the Volstead act and repeal of the 18th amendment.

"After four years of inaction on this important national proposition by President Hoover, as a highly intelligent people they are justified in believing that a vote for Hoover for President will mean four years more of inaction, but a vote for Roosevelt unquestionably will mean early and favorable action."

### *Curley Ridicules Hebert Vote Claim*

Mayor Curley today scoffed at a statement of Senator Felix Hebert of Rhode Island, Republican, that President Hoover would carry New York and New England in the November election. Senator Hebert is Republican campaign manager in the East. Mayor Curley predicted the Democratic ticket would carry New York state alone by more than 700,000.

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### PLENTY OF TAX DODGERS

The surprising angle of the controversy between Mayor Curley and Representative Mahoney is the revelation that the Representative's automobile excise tax as far back as 1928 was in arrears. The general public has a fixed idea that an automobile owner faces the revocation of his registration if he fails to pay the excise tax on his car.

It seems, however, that this is not so. Apparently, the registrar of motor vehicles has not the power to revoke a registration in such a case. The law establishing the excise tax did not provide for any action by the registrar.

Therefore, tax dodgers can continue to use their cars.

It was the intent of the Legislature to put an end to the wholesale dodging of personal property taxes on automobiles by establishing an excise tax and providing for prompt notification of ownership by the registrar's office to the assessors of the various cities and towns.

But this law has failed to work out satisfactorily, and tax dodging, to a very large extent, goes on. The registrar cannot investigate the truth of statements made in applications for registration. To provide for such individual checking would mean a doubling of the registry force. Therefore, thousands of automobile owners give false addresses, and get away with it.

The number of automobile owners who engage in petty swindles by claiming their cars are garaged in low tax and low insurance rate communities is large. And they get away with it through the loopholes in the law.

The only way to check this is for the Legislature to provide some way in which the various boards of assessors can be linked up with the issuance of registration plates. It will not do to install and cumbersome system, but if some simple means could be put into operation whereby the assessors could keep a close tab on automobile owners, it would put an end to tax dodging.

This will be a job for the next Legislature.

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## TIDES DANGER FOR SWIMMERS TO HUB LIGHT

**Mayor Donates Cup  
for Best Work Shown  
by Women in Race**

The annual distance swim from Warren bridge to Boston light next Sunday morning has attracted the entries of some of the leading marathon swimmers of the Greater Boston district and a score or more of hardy battlers of the waves will be found leaping from the Charlestown bridge.

Mayor James M. Curley has contributed a cup to be presented to the woman swimmer who, in the opinion of the judges, shows the best form and most perseverance and today it was presented to the officials of the Lowell Swimming Club, sponsors of the race.

There are many notable swimmers entered, but the tides and rips of Boston harbor are so severe that it takes canny judgment on top of expert ability to reach the goal. Some years ago Sam Richards negotiated the distance in 5 hours 30 minutes, but that record seems safe for a long time.

Johnny Mullen, who was declared the winner of the Boston light-Carson beach swim last year, despite the claims of Bill Handy, who came ashore first, is a contender in the Sunday swim. So is Handy, who is reported as a powerful contender.

Billy Nolan, the slender kid from the Boston Boys' Club, who led the field last year in this race up to two miles from the finish, again is a contender for the distance crown.

Mike Wrenn, veteran Lowell policeman, whose long distance ability is known and respected hereabouts; Dick McCarthy, Lowell barber; Ray Donovan, Wendall Smith, Nick Hatch, Harvard student; Bill Kenney and Henry Snodgrass of East Boston, are other prominent long distance artists entered. Matty Martin, who has turned in all kinds of cracking records from 1 to 10 miles at Long Beach in New York, is in town for a crack at the grind. Matty is being trained by Tom Lydon, one of the best swim pilots in the harbor.

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recommendation brought prolonged applause. He reported little loss in membership during the past year. He praised highly the legion welfare groups, and also William J. Blake, regional manager at Boston for the veterans' bureau.

While the report of the departmental legislative committee was being moved for adoption, together with the report of Comdr. Garrity, the commander arose and said in his oral report he should have included a recommendation that the legion memorialize Congress to favor repeal of the 18th amendment. Both reports then were accepted.

An old-fashioned outing and swimming meet was held this afternoon at Canobie Lake park, in Salem, N. H., just across the state line. There was dancing and other attractions. The golf tournament for the legion state championship was held at Andover Country Club.

Comdr. Garrity introduced Charles F. Adams, treasurer of the First National Stores, who presented through the Massachusetts department, to Lawrence post, a painting by P. O. Palmstrom, artist legionnaire of Needham. While Adams was delivering the presentation address Judge Louis S. Cox, honorary chairman of the convention, occupied the chair and he accepted the gift on behalf of Lawrence post and the state department and expressed the thanks of the members.

Other speakers of the morning were the Rev. George P. O'Connor, former department chaplain and now chairman of the department's child welfare committee and Col. William P. Blake, who told of the co-operation of the legion with the Veterans' Bureau.

Charles Ely of Westfield, departmental vice-commander and a brother of Gov. Ely, presenting a report on membership, said Massachusetts had made the best record in New England with the sole exception of Rhode Island. He cited the city of Lowell and Bristol county for gratifying showing.

## Mr. Mahoney Lucky to Get Out of Tax Dispute With Only \$12 Gouge

The people of Boston have read with interest the controversy between Mayor Curley and Representative John V. Mahoney which terminated with the sending to Mr. Mahoney of a bill for unpaid taxes allegedly owed by him to the city. Mr. Mahoney claims he has paid these items, running over a period of four years.

Let us quote from the news columns a pertinent paragraph of these developments more important to the public as a whole than the quarrel between the parties involved:

*"Constable Mitchell met Mahoney at his Beacon Street law offices, where he presented the warrants demanding immediate payment. They called for payment of \$59.86 in back taxes, \$12 for constable fees and 20 cents for the constable's carfare. There was 80 cents remaining at the conclusion of the transaction and Mahoney told the constable to buy cigars for himself with that."*

In that paragraph you have a vivid illustration of the perfectly legal gouging daily practiced by professional tax-gatherers upon the rank and file of our people less conspicuous in community life than Representative Mahoney. These conditions were recently exposed by the Boston Evening American.

This constable performed a service which required no extraordinary diligence or extraordinary intelligence.

The bills for Mr. Mahoney's taxes were compiled and completed by the REGULAR employes in the Tax Collector's office. There were six bills in all.

The constable took these six pieces of paper in his hand, traipsed up Beacon Street to Mr. Mahoney's office, presented them to him and was paid \$12 for his exercise, a fee of \$2 for each of the bills. What a grand and glorious "racket" this tax-collecting thing has turned out to be!

Not all the people of Boston, like the fortunate Mr. Mahoney, could write a check in full payment of these bills and the constable fees and munificently tell the constable to keep the change for expensive cigars.

If Mr. Mahoney had been unable to pay the bill immediately and on the spot the constable could have "taken him into custody," and put him into the Charles St. Jail, and could have charged him \$2 more for each of these six "arrests." And all under the protecting hand of the law!

If Mr. Mahoney had lived at any distance at all, the constable could have procured an automobile and charged him the expense of the trip, NOT ONE TRIP, in fact, but SIX TRIPS IN ALL, ONE FOR EACH TAX BILL.

This tax-gatherer, for his little service, acquired a fee equal to 20 per cent of the total of Mr. Mahoney's tax bills. Yet it may be seen there are circumstances under which the tax-gatherer can impose fees and cost in excess of the total of the tax bills themselves.

It is not our intention to go into the controversy over Mr. Mahoney's real or alleged failure to pay these tax items or to drag his name through these columns. But he is a conspicuous man in the public life of this State and the incident in which he

TRAVELER

8/11/32

## MAYOR CURLEY LEGION GUEST

Pays Tribute to Veterans  
for Betterment Work  
at Convention

LAWRENCE, Aug. 11—Mayor Curley of Boston was a guest and speaker today at the opening session of the 14th annual state convention of the Massachusetts department, American Legion. Curley paid tribute to the aid received from American Legion members in various construction projects designed chiefly for the betterment of ex-service men. He was given a cordial welcome upon his arrival.

### LARGE GATHERING

The convention opened in the Warner Theatre at 10:20 o'clock. The first woman delegate to register was Miss Margaret Donoghue of Columbia post 51, South Boston.

Other women delegates included members of All Nurses' post, 296, of Boston, the post commander, Mrs. Mary Cuttell, of Holliston, Mrs. Marcella Gaffney of Boston, and alternates, Miss Esther Murphy and Miss Harriet Kenmin of Boston. There are 60-odd members of the nurses' post here.

The band of Lawrence post of the legion played patriotic airs from the balcony for an hour prior to the opening of the convention. Among the early arrivals were Judge Louis S. Cox of superior court, honorary chairman, Mayor William P. White of Lawrence, the Rev. Robert F. White, department chaplain and a member of the faculty of the Catholic University of America at Washington, and former assistant district attorney of Middlesex county.

### 741 DELEGATES

At 10:30 A. M. Comdr. Stephen C. Garrity rapped for order. Sergeant-at-Arms Richard Morrissey of Salem was ordered to have the 741 delegates seated. Fr. White opened with a short prayer.

Guests were then introduced to the delegates, among them Mayor Curley, Mayor White, Alderman Thomas F. Galvin, Robert F. Hancock, Adam Eberhardt, Mrs. Stephen C. Garrity and Mrs. Emma Lovejoy, department president of the ladies auxiliary.

Mrs. Garrity and Mrs. Lovejoy were presented with large bouquets of roses. Comdr. Jeremiah J. Toomey of Lawrence post 15 welcomed the delegates.

Harold P. Redden, department adjutant, then submitted his report. He intimated that the American Legion is growing so rapidly that new and larger quarters are needed at the State House.

### CURLEY SPEAKS

Mayor Curley in his speech said in part:

"I desire to take this occasion to thank the American Legion for the assistance given me in my efforts to secure the enactment of legislation through which ex-service men might procure employment. Without the aid of this great organization it would have been impossible for me to overcome the opposition of those agencies who believe that the economic security of America is best conserved by the dole in times

# Mayor Curley Is Guest of Legion in Lawrence



Mayor Curley addressing convention of Massachusetts department, American Legion, at Lawrence today.

or depression rather than by work and wages.

"In June of 1930, with a view to relieving that element of the population of the capital city of Massachusetts, who had served the nation with courage and fidelity during the period of the world war, I sought legislation providing for the expenditure in the sum of \$5,000,000 for the extension of the Commonwealth avenue subway and through the aid rendered by the officials of this body I was successful in securing enactment. During the past three and one-half years it has been possible to provide employment upon this construction work for upwards of 1500 ex-service men at from \$5 to \$15 per day, who, provided this work was not in progress, would find it necessary to solicit soldiers' relief for the sustenance of their families.

### SOME OPPPOSITION

"It is unfortunate that an element of the population, educated and of good standing financially, should be found opposing economic measures of this character so essential to harmony and happiness in the home and patriotism in the land. I have been the target for their condemnation during the past six months because of my refusal to reduce wages and to add to the overcrowded ranks of the unemployed by the discharge of employees of the city. This malicious group would have the public believe the salvation of America is dependent upon the administration of public affairs and a sound public policy

is wholly dependent upon the payment of a servile wage and that opportunity for a livelihood should be the privilege of a few rather than of all the people. To permit this wilful and selfish group to substitute plutocracy for democracy, and yet with the agencies which they control for the dissemination of information it will be difficult to defeat their purpose unless some such organization as the American Legion, which has proven its fidelity and patriotism in the hour of the nation's trial, recognizes and assumes the opportunity for sane leadership necessary at the present hour.

"Students of history have marvelled at the patience and patriotism of the American people during the past nearly four years of industrial depression. They have been astonished at the failure of the Communists to make the character of progress in America that they anticipated and in my humble judgment the underlying reason for loyalty to country and its institutions that has kept America sane and safe during the past four years may be traced to the lessons learned by the men of the legion during the period of the world war. If the world war had been conducted in the same leaderless, senseless, hapless, lackadaisical manner that the federal government has been conducted during the past four years, success would never have crowned the flags of the allies."

Commander Garrity, in his report, recommended adoption of a resolution strongly urging upon Congress immediate payment of the balance due on adjusted compensation certificates. This

RECORD 8/11/32



## Dry Law

modification by Congress in December was predicted by Presi-  
William Green of A. F. of L. yes-  
terday. He is shown with May-  
or Curley, right; R. J. Wall, left,  
and J. T. Moriarity, State labor  
head, in exclusive  
City Hall pose.

(Record Photo)

TRANSCRIPT 8/11/32

## Shields to Oppose Dowd for Sheriff

John J. Shields of Roxbury, director of the City of Boston Employment Bureau and object of sporadic attacks for a long period by City Councilor John F. Dowd, announced today that he is a candidate for nomination for sheriff of Suffolk County in opposition to Dowd who has been in the field for some time. He plans to file his nomination papers for certification tomorrow.

The Shields candidacy is his answer to the latest Dowd attack, registered last Monday when Dowd led the fight in City Council, which resulted in defeat of an order for \$5000 necessary for the continuation of the employment bureau. With only \$1000 left in the treasury for use by the bureau, which has a staff of 15, Director Shields and his organization associates have only about ten days in which to continue in the ranks of the employed.

Globe 8/11/32

AMERICAN 8/11/32

# LEGION HEARS TALK BY MAYOR CURLEY

## He Urges Steps to End Depressions in Address at Lawrence

LAWRENCE, Aug 11—Mayor James M. Curley of Boston was the principal speaker at the opening of the American Legion convention at the Warner Theatre here this morning.

He touched on the depression and said that he thought that the United States had made progress during the past few years, but that it was hard to justify the appearance of 11,000,000 men tramping the streets without hope or employment. He advocated the establishment of a Federal Industrial Planning Commission to study conditions in the country and to make a report to Congress.

He stated that no convention could meet in any city in the country that would give more food for thought than the city of Lawrence, because of the way in which depression has hit the textile industry. He added, however, that things seemed to be brightening up and that the future looked brighter. He said that we have been led to believe that the machine is the servant of the worker, but during the past three and a half years the machine has been the master of the worker and the worker, the slave of the machine.

He concluded by saying that if the matter could not be adjusted in any other way, that he would favor the five-day working week. The Mayor also spoke in favor of payment of the bonus. State Commander Stephen C. Garrity of Lowell presided and Mayor William P. White of Lawrence welcomed the delegates on behalf of the city. Admiral Byrd was scheduled to speak today, but did not make an appearance and it was reported that he will speak tomorrow morning.

The convention adjourned at 12:30 until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock and all present went to Canobie Lake Park, Salem, N H, for dinner.

### CONVENTION APPLAUDS

#### GARRITY'S BONUS PLEA

LAWRENCE, Aug 11 (A. P.)—The adoption of a resolution strongly urging upon Congress immediate payment of the balance due on adjusted compensation certificates was recommended to the 14th annual convention of the State Department of the American Legion, today, by Stephen C. Garrity, retiring State commander. The recommendation was made in his annual report presented to the opening session of the three-day gathering.

Garrity's recommendation brought prolonged applause from the several hundred delegates assembled in the Warner Theatre. He also urged that Congress be asked to eliminate all interest due on loans previously paid the veterans and that widows and orphans of veterans be voted Government pensions.

Garrity reported little loss in membership during the past year despite prevailing economic conditions. He gave high praise to Legion welfare

groups and also to William J. Blake, regional manager at Boston of the Veterans' Bureau.

The convention was welcomed by Commander Jeremiah J. Twomey of Lawrence and by Mayor William P. White. The convention was opened with an invocation by Rev Robert White of Watertown, the department chaplain.

#### MAYOR CURLEY'S ADDRESS

Mayor James M. Curley of Boston, after asserting that he believed a turn for the better in business conditions was in sight, declared the present state of the country offered an unexampled opportunity to the Legion.

"Peace in home and patriotism in the land depend on continuity of wages for all who toil in America," he said. "Let this organization take its part in the front line for economic justice for every individual under the American flag."

Charles Ely of Westfield, departmental vice commander and a brother of Gov Joseph B. Ely, in presenting a report on membership, declared that Massachusetts had made the best record in New England with the sole exception of Rhode Island. Particularly gratifying, he said, was the showing made by several communities hard hit by industrial idleness. These included, he told the convention, the city of Lowell and Bristol County.

Ely urged the Legionnaires to continue to enlist the interest of non-members on a basis of service rather than by high pressure methods of solicitation.

#### ADVANCE NOMINATION TIME

The convention early adopted a resolution advancing the time for the nomination of officers from Saturday to Friday noon.

When the report of the departmental legislative committee was being moved for adoption, together with the annual report of Commander Garrity, the commander arose and told the convention that in his oral report a few minutes before he should have included a recommendation that the Legion memorialize Congress to favor repeal of the 18th amendment.

Both reports were then accepted.

William J. Blake, regional manager of the Veterans' Bureau at Boston, was the last speaker to address the opening session and the convention then recessed for an afternoon program of entertainment.

Early this afternoon the important resolutions committee under John Walsh of Waltham, the chairman, planned to meet to begin consideration of several score suggested resolutions. These included proposals dealing with bonus payment and prohibition.

# CURLEY TO BID WELCOME TO BONUS CHIEF

Waters Will Be Legion's Guest at Lawrence; Seeks to Obtain N. E. Support

Walter W. Waters, commander of the Bonus Expeditionary Forces, will be officially welcomed by the city tomorrow and make a flying trip to Lawrence to the convention of Massachusetts Department, American Legion.

The announcement came today from Earl F. Goodwin, Boston aide, who joined the forces from Akron, O., and was in Washington during the stay of the veterans there.

It came after Goodwin conferred with Mayor Curley and Thomas Burke, the latter a liaison officer of the state department of the Legion and a city councilor.

#### WELCOME BY CURLEY

His busy day will start after his arrival with a visit to City Hall and the official welcome by Mayor Curley. The latter has placed at the disposal of the veteran leader and his staff, transportation to Lawrence in time for the appearance before the legionnaires.

Plans are also underway for a public appearance of Waters before he leaves Boston, so he might place the cause of the veterans before the citizenry, a condition its leaders contemplate must eventually arise.

"The chief aim of Commander Waters is to tell the truth about the movement of the expeditionary forces," Goodwin said.

"He wants, also, to let the public know that the movement of the veterans is by no means a 'Red' activity.

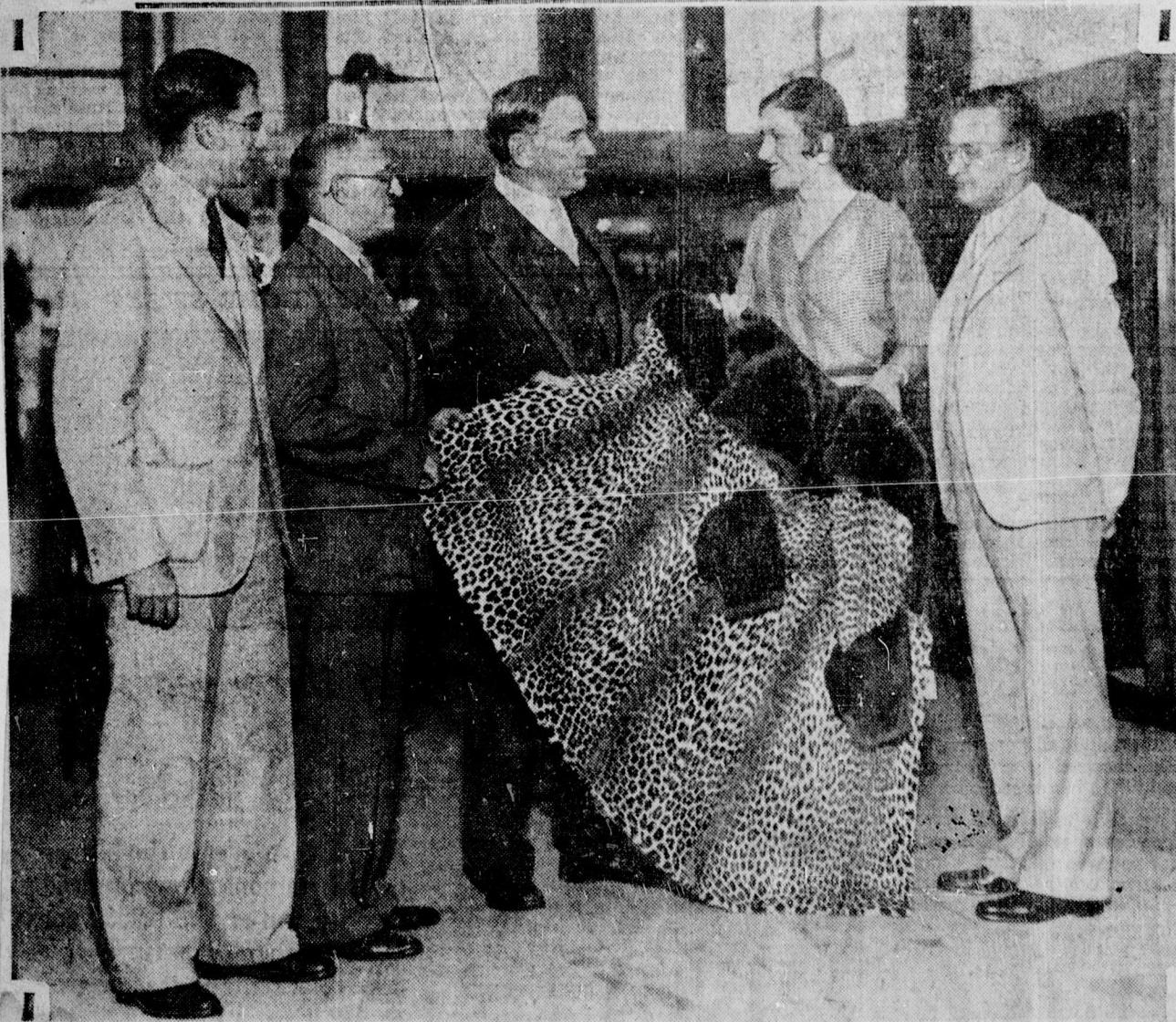
#### SEEKS N. E. AID

Commander Waters will also explain the history of the movement and will relate some of the many experiences while the veterans were at the Anacostia camp, across the east branch of the Potomac River from Washington."

Goodwin added that Waters plans to enlist the aid of Massachusetts and other states in this section in following the lead of seven states, which have approved of the movement enough to offer encampments.

The invitation of Mayor Curley and of the legionnaires was relayed by Goodwin to Waters, who has been the guest of Mayor Walker in New York City for the past two days in connection with the bonus activities.

## ***Mayor and Stage Star Visit New Home of Scott Furriers***



MR. AUGUST    MR. YOZELL    MAYOR CURLEY

### **NEW LEOPARD COAT CATCHES MAYOR'S EYE**

Mayor Curley viewing the new Tammany Leopard coat displayed in the new Greater Scott Furriers' store at 411 Washington st. during their great opening celebration sale yesterday. Henry August, Henry

MISS TACHE    MR. COHEN

Yozell, Miss Kay Tache and Albert A. Cohen are shown with the mayor during an inspection tour, in which he saw the latest style creations.

(Staff photo.)



MILDRED CHAPLIN

### **DRESS FOR STAGE QUEEN**

Mildred Harris Chaplin, stage and screen star, now appearing in person at RKO-Keith Theater, is shown displaying one of the new fall and winter dresses on display at the Greater Scott Furriers' new six-floor building.

HAROLD CHAPLIN

8/11/32

TRANSCRIPT 8/13/32

AMERICITY

Ch 01312

## Curley in Movies to Aid Roosevelt

### Acts Part in "Forgotten Man" —Says Hoover Will Lose Drys in Bay State

New York, Aug. 12 (A.P.)—Mayor James M. Curley of Boston, who on Sept. 1 will start a campaign tour for Governor Roosevelt which will extend to the Pacific Coast, became a movie actor in Democracy's cause for seven minutes today. He made a talking picture of the "Forgotten Man," whom he identified as "the 10,000,000 who are unemployed and walking the streets."

The mayor predicted in the talking picture that Governor Roosevelt would carry forty of the forty-eight States, including Massachusetts in the list.

The mayor also said that President Hoover's statement in his acceptance speech that he favored prohibition change would alienate the many Republicans drys in Massachusetts. He predicted that William D. Upshaw, prohibition candidate for the presidency, would receive 150,000 votes in the State, most of them drawn from the Republican ranks.

Besides making the talking picture Mayor Curley conferred with Democratic National Chairman James A. Farley and Robert Jackson, head of the speakers' bureau, about the itinerary of his coming campaign tour. The itinerary, if decided upon, was not announced.

## Mahoney Urges More Appeals from Taxes

Representative John V. Mahoney of Boston, who earlier in the week was forced to pay alleged back taxes to a constable sent to his office by Mayor Curley following an attack by Mahoney at the Chamber of Commerce on the city's assessing methods, appealed last night to property owners to make use of the State Board of Tax Appeals in securing abatements of excessively valued real estate. He spoke over the radio from Station WBZ.

Mahoney declared that the creation of the tax repeal board was one of the most forward-looking steps taken in Massachusetts in years and particularly urged home owners to take their tax bills to the board in an effort to have the valuations reduced.

Mahoney said nothing concerning the Curley incident and did not mention the mayor's name during his talk but his reference to the Board of Tax Appeals and the "boosting of city valuations to the limit" were of the same nature as the remarks which aroused the mayor's ire on Tuesday.

The representative's talk was one of a series over WBZ by members of the Joint Special Committee on Public Expenditures, authorized by the Legislature to make a study of governmental economy. Mahoney is vice chairman of the committee.

## CURLEY MAKES TALKIE TO AID CAMPAIGN

### Filmed in 7-Minute Sketch of "Forgotten Man"; Sees Roose- velt Winning Forty States

New York, Aug. 12 (AP)—Mayor James M. Curley of Boston, who on Sept. 1 will start a campaign tour for Gov. Roosevelt which will extend to the Pacific coast, became a movie actor in democracy's cause for seven minutes today.

He made a talking picture of the "forgotten man," whom he identified as "the 10,000,000 who are unemployed and walking the streets."

He said he had seen the forgotten man 2000 strong in the bread line in Times sq., along Wacker ave., Chicago, and on the Anacostia plain in Washington.

"I am confident," he said, "that Governor Roosevelt will take the forgotten man out of American life and restore equal opportunity to all."

Mayor Curley predicted in the talking picture that Governor Roosevelt would carry 40 of the 48 States, and one of the states he would carry was Massachusetts.

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## MAYOR CURLEY MAKES TALKIE

### Plea for "Forgotten Man" Recorded for Campaign

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## Constable Who Served Papers on Mahoney Assaulted

William I. Mitchell of 25 Mellen street, Dorchester, the constable who was assigned to collect alleged overdue taxes from Representative J.V. Mahoney of Boston, after the latter's controversy with Mayor Curley on Tuesday, was found unconscious in the vestibule of the School street entrance of City Hall yesterday afternoon. Mitchell said he had been telephoning in a booth and thought he must have fainted when he came out, but after looking at his features in a mirror at the Haymarket Square Relief Station, decided that someone must have assaulted him. His jaw was swollen and his lower lip lacerated.

Mitchell said he had no enemies that he was aware of and could not explain the assault. He did not believe the incident had anything to do with the collection of taxes from Mahoney, with whom he is personally on friendly terms.

ADVERTISING

8/13/32

## Urge Vets to Battle for Their Bonus

**Mayor James M. Curley, Boston, speaking over the "mike" at the Lawrence state department convention of the American Legion, urged a united fight for the bonus and legislation for the care of veterans and their kin.**



## U. S. Compensation of Officers Under Fire

By BERT BROCKBANK

Lawrence, Aug. 11.—The first move taken against the National Economy League at the 14th annual convention of Massachusetts Department, American Legion, which opened in the Warner Theater today, came at early afternoon when Weymouth Post filed a long resolution with the resolutions committee calling for investigation of the League and of its personnel.

John Walsh of Waltham Post, chairman of the important resolutions committee, admitted this resolution had been filed. But he declined to reveal its details until the committee had had a chance to consider it.

From authoritative sources it was learned, however, that the resolution not only demands an inquiry into the National Economy League but also draws attention to the fact that six officers of the eLeague, including Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, are receiving a total of \$54,900 a year in various forms of compensation from the U. S. Government. Rear Admiral Byrd is receiving \$4500 a year as result of his war services.

Rear Admiral Byrd was awaited by the convention delegates with tense expectancy today, but failed to arrive. He is expected tomorrow.

### OTHER RESOLUTIONS

Other resolutions presented included the following demands:

For immediate payment of the soldiers' bonus.

For repeal of the Eighteenth

Amendment.

For modification of the Volstead Act to permit the sale of beer and light wines.

Against any further reduction, on account of the government's economy program, in benefits received by World War veterans.

More than 60 resolutions were filed within an hour after the resolutions committee went into session after adjournment of the first convention session at noon.

The committee began its arduous task of considering and acting upon the flood of resolutions. Chairman Walsh said he expected the committee would be deliberating well into the night.

It was a cheerful scene in the Warner Theater when State Commander Stephen C. Garrity called the 1932 State convention to order. State officers were on the platform, delegates in the floor chairs, spectators in the balcony. Musical interludes were furnished by the band of the Lawrence Post, the host post.

### CURLEY URGES BONUS

Invocation was offered by the Rev. Robert J. White of Watertown, department chaplain. Commander Garrity invited prominent

guests to the platform. These included Superior Court Judge Louis S. Cox of Lawrence, Mayor William P. White of Lawrence and members of his City Council, Commander Jere J. Twomey of Lawrence Post, Mrs. Emma Lovejoy, department president of the Woman's Auxiliary; Mayor John F. Burke of Medford and Vice-President Charles F. Adams of the Boston Braves.

Gh 01313

## CURLEY NEVER MORE CERTAIN OF VICTORY

### Mayor Sails to New York to Confer With Farley

"Never, since Gov. Roosevelt threw his hat in the ring, have I been more confident of Democratic success than I am at the present time," Mayor James M. Curley asserted last night as he stepped aboard the Eastern Steamship Company's Liner Boston, on his way for a 1 o'clock conference today in New York with James Farley, Roosevelt's campaign manager.

"Every hour brings further confirmation that Franklin Delano Roosevelt cannot be beaten for President this Fall," the Mayor declared. "I will discuss with Mr Farley the plans for my speaking tour over the country and I will present my tentative schedule to him, seeking his advice and help. If he has any special tasks that he may want me to do for the benefit of the party I shall be only too glad to accept."

This is the first time that the Mayor has been on the all-water route to New York in 10 years, he said. "I am looking forward to the sail down the bay and through the canal and I shall be very glad of the opportunity for a good night's sleep on the boat."

The conference with Mr Farley will occupy much of the afternoon and the Mayor will then take an evening train for Boston, he expects. With him on the trip went his daughter, Mary; his son, Paul, and Edmund L. Dolan, the city treasurer.

Capt Eugene E. O'Donnell, president of the Eastern Steamship Lines, boarded the Boston with the Mayor and his party and saw that all arrangements were complete for their comfort. He instructed Capt Allen, the skipper, to allow the Mayor to come onto the bridge and see how the navigating officers went about their duties. He also gave instructions that the Mayor and his party should be taken through the engine room if they so wished.

*Record* 8/14/32

## CONSTABLE IN CURLEY, MAHONEY ROW, BEATEN

Ambushed by unknown assailants, Constable William J. Mitchell of Mellen st., Dorchester, who, on Tuesday collected overdue taxes from Rep. James V. Mahoney, who had warred with Mayor Curley, was beaten up and knocked unconscious in City Hall Annex, yesterday.

A blow of a fist felled Mitchell as he stepped from a telephone booth in the darkened corridor. One punch raised a lump on his jaw and another split his lip. He was revived at Haymarket Relief Hospital after 15 minutes of unconsciousness.

Mitchell does not know his attackers but he does not believe his beating was due in anyway to the Mahoney incident. He feels that he was mistaken for someone else in the darkness of the City Hall corridor.

*Post*

## CONSTABLE SLUGGED IN CITY HALL

### Reason for Attack on Mitchell Complete Mystery

Police are investigating an attack late yesterday at City Hall upon City Constable William J. Mitchell, who leaped into the spotlight a few days ago when he collected \$72.86 in alleged delinquent taxes from Representative John V. Mahoney of Dorchester, vice-chairman of the legislative committee on public expenditures and Mayor Curley's sharpest critic.

#### SLUGGED, POLICE SAY

According to the police, the constable was slugged as he stepped from a public telephone booth in the street floor corridor outside the office of the city collecting department, in which he is employed.

In a dazed and semi-conscious condition he was taken to the Haymarket Relief Station by Patrolmen Jeremiah J. Feely and George L. Brown in the ambulance of the Milk street police station. After treatment he was taken to his home at 25 Mellen street, Dorchester, where he is nursing a lacerated

lower lip and a swollen jaw. The 47-year-old constable was unable to assist police in identifying his assailant. He explained that he could remember nothing between the time he stepped from the telephone booth until he woke up at the relief station.

#### Knows of No Reason

He protested that he had no enemies that he knew of and that no one could justly take offence at his duty of making the alleged overdue tax collection from the State legislator just because he happened to be assigned to the case as a part of his day's work.

Constable Mitchell asserted that he was inclined to think that he fainted coming out of the telephone booth, but when he recovered consciousness and looked at his battered mouth in a hospital mirror, he agreed with the police that only a punch could leave such a picture.

## MAHONEY URGES APPEAL ON TAXES

Advises All Who Believe  
Homes Assessed Too Much

Declares Curley's Bond Plan  
for Relief "Out of Question"

Charging that assessments on real estate have been "boosted to the limit and kept there," Representative John V. Mahoney of Dorchester, vice-chairman of the Special Legislative Commission on Public Expenditures, in a radio talk last night urged taxpayers who believe their homes are assessed too high to appeal to the State Board of Tax Appeals.

Representative Mahoney, who clashed with Mayor Curley recently because of his criticism of the city administration, said that the average abatement granted by the board in the cases that have come up for decision has been about 16 percent.

"Every citizen who owns his own home or any other kind of real or personal property," he said, "who feels that the reduced value of all commodities, including the necessities of life, warrants a corresponding reduction in valuations, set by the assessors of the community in his own individual case, is entitled to a hearing, and if he is being overcharged, he owes it to himself to ask for one."

Representative Mahoney, whose controversy with the Mayor resulted in a constable being ordered to collect back taxes alleged to have been owed by the Dorchester legislator, did not mention the episode but did repeat his opposition to a proposal for a bond issue of \$15,000,000 sponsored by Mayor Curley and the Mayors' Club of Massachusetts for relief of municipalities.

"A State bond issue for free-handed distribution, without any kind of restriction on the local governments, is out of the question," he said. "I do not believe it would have any chance of being passed by the Legislature. The proposal to use the highway fund for the same purpose is open to the same criticism. It would be a gift-pure and simple—an incentive to greater carelessness. I believe the best method would be to treat each city by itself as the need arises."

Mr Mahoney said there is a strong possibility that the Governor may have to call a special session of the Legislature to act on the petitions for assistance of those in extremity.

TRANSCRIPT

8/15/32

Globe

8/15/32

## Report 14 P. C. Fraud in Welfare Cases

### Hultman Reserves Comment Until Complete Report Reaches Him

About 14 per cent of the nearly 600 welfare cases which have been investigated by the police are fraudulent, according to unofficial reports on the checkup of disbursements which are now averaging at the rate of about \$12,000,000 per year, as against the previous average of \$3,000,000 yearly.

Police Commissioner Hultman, while asserting that it must be borne in mind that the reports on the investigation are unofficial, agreed that at least some apparent irregularities may be expected to be disclosed. He said, however, that he had no statement to make at this time because it would be unfair for him to comment until the investigation has been finished and the complete report made to him. The commissioner was scheduled to confer with members of the Welfare Board this afternoon.

There was unofficial word that the investigation might have some repercussions in the political field, that the information obtained by the police through a list of nearly fifty comprehensive questions put to each recipient of aid may in some cases uncover the fact that persons in official or political life made the way easy for the applicants to obtain assistance by vouching for their integrity. If such political assistance was registered in written memoranda its source might easily be traced should the police so extend the scope of their inquiry.

The preliminary reports show that in Jamaica Plain, the home district of Mayor Curley, the alleged cases of fraud totaled fifteen out of thirty investigated, including owners of homes and automobiles. The check-up, according to the reports, showed that East Boston also contributed a large proportion of suspicious cases, twenty-three out of forty-eight. At one house a son was reported to have continued as a recipient of aid after the death of his dependent father. The police likewise stated that one man, whose mother owned several houses, was found to be receiving aid and that his sister owns an automobile.

In Hyde Park, the police stated, eight of thirty-five cases investigated appeared suspicious. One man moved to Randolph years ago, but his name continues on the city list, and several persons were reported by the police as owning their homes.

More than twelve of twenty-eight cases investigated in the Mattapan section were denounced as fraudulent by the police, and police of the Hanover street station reported that one man, with a \$2500 bank account, sold city-aid coal to increase his savings. One North End woman was reported as receiving \$8 weekly, although each of her two sons drives an automobile. Vacant lots are reported as having been given as addresses by some of the beneficiaries.

Deputy Superintendent Thomas F. Goode, who has charge of the investigation, is expected shortly to receive the reports of the cases so far investigated. At least one warrant has been obtained by the police of the City Point station for the arrest of a person alleged to be receiving aid illegally.

## SCANDALS IN WELFARE CLAIMS

### Claim Politicians Made False Representations

The lid, according to police officials, is scheduled to be blown off in a Public Welfare Department scandal which will amaze the city. Not only have people with radio-equipped cars, expensive homes and bank accounts been receiving city aid, but some of them, it is indicated, have been receiving it through the intercession of politicians who have written letters to the Public Welfare Department and to the authorities supporting the false claims of certain of their constituents.

The Boston Police Department is now engaged in a thorough investigation of those receiving public welfare aid. Although the surface of the investigation is scarcely scratched, the police have already discovered that 14 percent of 600 claims are fraudulent. Since the investigation began, hundreds of people who have personal knowledge of fraudulent claims have been making them known at police stations and Police Headquarters.

The response to the police inquiry has been so surprising that Deputy Supt Goode has caused to be installed in his own office a private telephone, which will have a special telephone number, to handle all of the anonymous telephone calls and the calls of those who identify themselves, giving information about public welfare funds.

To handle the investigation Deputy Supt Goode has established at Headquarters "The Bureau of Public Aid Investigation," to which all police officers and investigators will make their reports and which will be a clearing house for public aid information.

Mayor Curley called upon the police to make this investigation and Deputy Supt Goode called upon all police stations to look up and investigate all of the aid recipients. The Public Welfare Department itself has a corps of "visitors" paid by the city whose province it is to look up all such cases.

#### Reports Surprise Police

The reports on the first 100 cases received surprised the police. The investigations were made independently by officers and patrolmen attached to various stations. Deputy Supt Goode said this morning that he could not discuss any of the reports made to him by the station captains, and indicated that he had been prohibited from doing so by Commissioner Hultman. Commissioner Hultman's office told reporters this morning that the commissioner could not be disturbed now and that he would discuss the public welfare cases when he got around to it.

Deputy Supt Goode pointed out that the reports from the various stations were not necessarily complete; that they were the records of what patrolmen had been told and had learned during their visits; and that certain of the cases reported by them would be investigated further directly by Police Headquarters.

He explained that the private tele-

phone line had been installed to avoid having such calls go through the regular switchboard because informers would be more likely to talk freely if they knew that the line was private and that there was no possibility of tracing the call.

Reports on the first 100 cases have been sent to Mr Hultman for his review. Among them are said to be 23 out of 48 cases in East Boston which are considered to be fraudulent. One of them is the case of a son who continued to receive public aid in the name of his father after his father had died. Another is that of a man whose mother owns her own home and whose sister drives around in an expensive automobile. He is said to have asked public aid because his mother and sister were dependent upon him.

#### Nonresident on List

In Hyde Park, according to police information, there are eight out of 35 cases which are believed to be fraudulent. Among these eight are people who own their own homes, a man who lives in an outlying town and is not a resident of Boston and another the owner of a high-priced automobile.

Out of 28 cases in Mattapan, 12 are viewed with suspicion. In one case a daughter is said to have foreclosed on a mortgage on her own father—and both are receiving city aid.

From Station 1 it was learned that a North End man, with a bank account of \$2500, was receiving city aid, part of it in coal, and that he was selling the coal. A North End woman receiving city aid, it is said, has a son and daughter, both with automobiles, and the son's automobile is radio-equipped. Another North End man had a \$3500 equity in his own home and still another drove to the public welfare headquarters in his own car every week to collect his \$9.

The names of people who are not seeking public welfare aid, according to the police, are being used by those who are. Aid, it is reported, is being paid to one man under two and three names. False addresses are given for others, so that when police look them up they find filling stations, warehouses and vacant lots. People who are working regularly, they report, are receiving the additional aid from the city.

In some of the fraudulent cases, it is reported politicians have written letters which are on file, outlining the desultory circumstances of applicants for aid, when the applicants were themselves well off, home owners and automobile owners. An effort will be made in each case, it is said, to establish the identity of the politician who sponsored or supported the false claim.

8/15/32

# Curley's Loan Plan Scored by Warren Board

**Research Body Says Present Duty Is to Keep City Credit at Highest Level**

## For State Aid Only as Local Work Fails

**Declares "Primary Prudence" of Economy Not Rule Here, but Expenses Mount**

With the declaration that a present duty of the utmost importance is "to preserve the city's credit at the highest possible level" the Boston Municipal Research Bureau today returned to its attack on Mayor Curley's position that the city's present burden of public welfare expenses can best be eased by allowing Boston a share in the \$15,000,000 State bond issue sought by the Mayors Club. It is "the height of imprudence," according to the Bureau, headed by Bentley W. Warren as chairman, for Boston "now to begin borrowing money to pay the city's current expenses."

The bureau favors assistance from the Commonwealth only after local authorities have done the utmost for economy and "it shall appear that particular cities and towns are insolvent." Any aid, however, in the opinion of the bureau, should be in substance a receivership with the State in complete control.

The plan for borrowing under the club's proposal would be a rash neglect of the duty to keep Boston's credit at a high level, according to the Bureau which holds that such a policy "fails to look beyond the confines of the present year." The already overtaxed public, the bureau reasons, could entertain no hopes of lower government costs but must see them "continue their steady upward swing, suffer who may."

Declaring that the demand throughout Massachusetts is for drastic retrenchment of municipal budgets "not for the invention of easy means to sustain them at a dangerously inflated level by borrowing money," the bureau asserts that the "primary prudence" of reducing Boston's expenses of government to a basis of economy "honestly suited to the force of the present emergency" has not been exercised—the reductions in the ordinary expenses of the city departments outside the public welfare work having been "relatively slight." In other words, the bureau declares that while the public welfare outlay has been increased four fold, from \$3,000,000 yearly

to \$12,000,000, the city's economies, admitting certain claims by Mayor Curley, would show a decrease of only 5 per cent.

### Sees Increased Expenses

As a matter of fact, according to the bureau, a study of recent appropriations discloses evidence of many additions to the regular expense account.

"Pyramiding of charges . . . as though the depression had never occurred, is all the more perilous in view of the shaky foundation on which Boston's whole present schedule of essayed valuation now rests," the bureau asserts, going on to state that economic facts may at any time drive the total valuation of the city last fixed by the assessors at \$1,950,000,000, "down to a figure as low as \$1,500,000,000."

Besides Chairman Warren, the board of directors of the bureau comprises the following:

William Dexter, vice chairman; William A. Parker, treasurer; Francis R. Bangs, George E. Cabot, Russell S. Codman, John J. Cornish, Fred A. Dakin, George L. De Blois, William Arthur Dupee, Lee M. Friedman, Augustus F. Goodwin, Francis C. Gray, Henry P. Kendall, Tarrant P. King, Archibald G. Monks, Arthur P. Russell, Henry L. Shattuck, Stephen W. Sleeper, Charles M. Storey, Michael H. Sullivan and Charles W. Whittier.

In his absence from the city today there was no immediate reply from Mayor Curley to the bureau's statement, but as the mayor stated the other day that he anticipated further comment from the Warren body to which he expected to reply an answer may come upon his return. It was stated at his office at City Hall that the mayor was on Cape Cod for the day.

### Text of Statement

The text of the statement follows: "City officials still follow the easy lure of borrowing money, to avoid the stern work of cutting Boston's daily expenses. Pointing to the vastly increased current cost of public relief work, City Hall pleads that this burden can best be lightened by allowing Boston a share in the \$15,000,000 State bond-issue asked by the Mayors' Club.

"That argument would have force only if Boston's ordinary expenses of Government had already been reduced to a basis of economy honestly suited to the force of the present emergency. That primary work of prudence has not yet been done. While the cost of the public welfare department has risen from less than \$3,000,000 in normal times to a present annual outlay of more than \$12,000,000, the reductions thus far accomplished in the ordinary expenses of Boston's other city departments are relatively slight.

"These reductions have largely resulted from temporary postponement of some expenditures for repairs, equipment and maintenance of city property, and from taking advantage of lower commodity prices. Exclusive of public welfare and soldiers' relief departments, the 1932 maintenance appropriations for city, county and school departments show a decrease of less than 2 per cent from 1931 expenditures. Even if the voluntary contributions of public employees in these departments to the public welfare department are considered salary reductions, the decrease would be only 5 per cent. This record affords the public scant compensation for the four-fold increase of humanitarian cost caused by the widespread unemployment.

### Payroll Costs Increasing

"On the contrary, a study of recent appropriations finds evidence of many additions to the regular expense account of

Boston's city government both for maintenance and for debt-service, the full effect of which will be felt in 1933 and thereafter. The 1932 city, county and school budgets provided for over 100 new employees at a cost of \$50,000 this year and of over \$100,000 in future years with the result that total payroll costs, instead of being diminished, actually are increasing.

With the ordinary budgets still moving on this upward course, it is not merely misleading but gravely dangerous to talk of lightening Boston's burden by borrowing money for the heavy current cost of the public welfare department. Though City Hall constantly refers to this cost as an extraordinary charge, and does so with justice, one thing is certain. Neither in 1932, nor yet in 1933, will Boston see the end of it. Even if business and industry should now show marked improvement, the necessary cost of public relief work is bound to continue at an abnormally high figure for a long time to come. Mayor Curley himself has predicted that for thousands of unfortunate families the winter of 1933 will be the worst yet experienced. Under these conditions, it is the height of imprudence for Boston now to begin borrowing money to pay the city's current expenses.

"Such pyramiding of charges—both for the extraordinary continuing costs of humanitarian relief enforced by the most severe depression in modern history, and for the ordinary costs of a municipal government still operating almost as though the depression had never occurred—is all the more perilous in view of the shaky foundation on which Boston's whole present schedule of assessed valuations now rests. The collapse of the real estate market has rendered the city's whole list of taxable resources fictitiously high. The sheer weight of economic facts may at any time drive this total valuation, last fixed by the assessors at \$1,950,000,000, down to a figure as low as \$1,500,000,000 or lower.

### Steady Upward Climb

"To preserve Boston's municipal credit at the highest possible level is, therefore, a present duty of the utmost urgency. That duty is not fulfilled, but rashly neglected, by the plan of the Mayors' Club to begin borrowing now on a large scale to pay current expenses. Such a policy fails to look beyond the confines of the present year, save as it leads to the inescapable inference that, once begun, it will be repeated in the future. The public, already over-taxed, is thus served notice that it can entertain no hope of lower government costs, but must see them continue their steady upward climb, suffer who may.

"Throughout Massachusetts the essential demand of the times is for drastic retrenchment of municipal budgets, not for the invention of easy means to sustain them at dangerously inflated levels by borrowing money. If, after the local authorities have made every possible cut and tried every expedient of economy, it shall appear that particular cities and towns actually are insolvent in the sense that they cannot meet their obligations as they become due, assistance from the Commonwealth may then be necessary. But, as in the case of Fall River, any aid thus granted should be in substance a receivership, placing the State in complete control of the affairs of the cities or towns so affected."

Post 8/15/32

16 TRANSCRIPT

8/16/32

# MADE LAND AT AIRPORT COMPLETED

When Graded Will  
Give Triple Present  
Field Area

The huge dredges, which have been working day and night for the past nine months pumping clay from the harbor bottom up onto the mud flats on the northern and eastern borders of the municipal airport in East Boston, have completed their contract, it was announced yesterday.

## COST \$700,000

About \$700,000 has been spent by the city since last November in filling the waste land, much of it water-covered, and this, when covered with cinders and levelled, will triple the size of the available landing field, according to Superintendent Albert L. Edson.

The present triangular landing area comprises about 80 acres. The land which will eventually be added to the airport runs cut from the flying field to a bulkhead a few hundred yards off Wood Island, on the northern end of the field, and toward Governor's Island, on the southeast.

## One Year to Settle

At least a year will be given the newly-made land to settle before it will be covered with cinders, graded and levelled for use by the airplanes. This is the first major step of an expansion programme, for which the city was authorized by the Legislature to borrow \$1,250,000 beyond the debt limit last year.

Other projects in the future contemplate the levelling of Governors Island and the establishment of a huge hydroplane base between the airport and Wood Island, on the north and northeast.

By the summer of 1934, Boston will have the finest all-round municipal airport of any city in the world, according to the predictions of Mayor Curley, the Chamber of Commerce and officials of air lines using the Boston airport.

# Police to Study All Welfare Aid Cases in City

Hultman Orders 20,000 In-  
vestigated — Mayor Curley  
Warns Against Fraud

Disclosures of alleged fraud by the police investigation of the distribution of public welfare relief in this city has resulted in announcement by Police Commissioner Eugene C. Hultman that all of the 20,000 aid cases will be thoroughly investigated regardless of whom the inquiry may strike. Explaining that the investigation is being made on the request of Mayor Curley, the commissioner repeated his statement of yesterday that he would have no comment to make on the several cases until a complete report on the initial list being studied by the police had been submitted to him.

Upon his return from a visit to Cape Cod, Mayor Curley declined to comment on the investigation to any extent, but served warning on those accepting aid while not entitled to it, to the effect that they must cease doing so or take the consequences.

"The matter has been turned over by the welfare department to the police department," said the mayor. "Commissioner Hultman is now working on it. It is a matter now for the welfare and police authorities."

As the investigation stands now the police commissioner is not in official possession of any names in frauds alleged to have been uncovered in the unofficial report, and for this reason obviously is making no statement on isolated cases.

That is the position also being taken by Chairman Simon E. Hecht of the Public Welfare Board, who stated today that the board had no comment to make, as nothing has been placed before it officially. Chairman Hecht said that he was in conference yesterday with Commissioner Hultman, discussing the general routine of the investigation, that he expected to see the commissioner again today and perhaps frequently for the same purpose.

## Taylor and Hultman Confer

After a conference with Commissioner Hultman, William H. Taylor, a member of the welfare board, stated that the meeting was in the nature of a general talk concerning the methods to be employed, with the aim of weeding out those who are not deserving of assistance and at the same time giving the deserving all the protection they need. He said that the welfare and police departments are proceeding on a purely co-operative basis. He said no specific cases had been discussed.

Mr. Taylor stated that a report to the police that any given case is a fraud does not necessarily mean that it is fraudulent. Certain cases, he said, might appear fraudulent to an untrained person, and for that reason it will be necessary to consult the records of the board before final judgment is passed.

"You can't say," Taylor declared, "that because a man was arrested his case is an unworthy one. It must be remembered that his family must be provided for. We've got to use common sense."

"The decrease in real estate values is such that a man owning a house may be much poorer than one who doesn't own a house. It must be remembered that the house-owner was a good citizen when he paid taxes in good times, and I believe he is now entitled to some consideration.

"With reference to citizens and non-citizens, the law makes no distinction. The non-citizen can be just as hungry as the citizen. Every case must stand on its own merits and we can't lay down any hard and fast rule."

It is estimated that 1200 to 2000 cases already have been turned over to the police and that the balance of 20,000 will be presented later. Commissioner Hultman said that he believed that the percentage of fraud reported in the 2000 cases now before the department would be more indicative of the whole than the first list of about 600 names which he said he suspected were "hand picked" and in which the unofficial reports show an estimate of 14 per cent of fraud.

"I do not want to give a black eye to all persons getting city aid," said Hultman. "I am only after those getting aid who are not entitled to it. If any persons receiving aid from the city of Boston have committed larceny or accepted money under false pretenses by doing so, the police department will prosecute them."

"On the other hand, if the investigation discloses that there has been a conspiracy, it will be a question whether the police department or the city of Boston will prosecute."

The commissioner's statement with relation to conspiracy was a sequel to reports that in some of the fraud cases it was found that officeholders or other politicians had written recommendations for relief of persons when the applicants themselves were in good circumstances, home or automobile owners. The police, it is declared, are prepared to make every effort to establish the identity of any politician or officeholder who sponsored claims which may turn out to be fraudulent, and in this particular the investigation may have some interesting developments.

Of 150 cases investigated by officers of the East Boston police station about one-third were classed as undeserving of city aid. Fifteen of the persons named could not be located. They were not known at the addresses given and no one at these places could give any information about them. Two of the persons had substantial bank deposits and five others had deposits in the Federal National Bank.

8/16/32

# WELFARE HEADS SEE HULTMAN

## Second Parley Follows Refusal of Secrecy in Probe

Simon Hecht, chairman of the city welfare board, accompanied by several members of the board, was closeted with Commissioner Hultman at police headquarters again today.

This second conference came on the heels of the police commissioner's refusal to keep secret the discoveries of fraud in distribution of public aid.

With Hecht were William H. Taylor, chairman of the Boston emergency committee on unemployment; Mrs. Agnes H. Parker and Edward H. Willey, South Boston druggist. Atty. Leo Schwartz, counsel for Commissioner Hultman, also attended.

During the conference, Deputy Commissioner Thomas F. Goode, under whose leadership startling disclosures of fraud in public welfare have been made, was summoned to the commissioner's office.

Commissioner Hultman refused to make any statement at the conclusion of the meeting. Hecht declared it "just a meeting." He said, "We just went over the whole situation, as we shall continue to do."

Taylor said of the conference: "We talked in general about the machinery to make more effective the co-operative efforts between the welfare board and the police department.

"We discussed no specific cases, and no names were brought up. As the occasion requires, we shall continue to confer."

Welfare workers yesterday demanded that the lid be clamped on discoveries made by the new police bureau of public welfare investigation, claiming that the revelations would discourage contributions and interfere with local charity work.

Commissioner Hultman flatly refused the request. "During the time I have held public office," he declared, "I have never asked the newspapers to kill a story, and I don't intend to do it now."

Meanwhile a statement accepted as approval of the commissioner's methods was forthcoming from City Hall.

"The matter has been turned over by the welfare board to police authorities," Mayor Curley stated. "Commissioner Hultman is now working on it."

The indications are that it would be advisable for those not entitled to aid to cease accepting it or take the consequences."

Ignoring the furore caused by demands that their revelations be hushed, investigators pressed forward in their work of disclosing fraud in public aid.

Deputy Commissioner Goode's men have probed some 150 cases of persons receiving aid from the city. Many have proved fraudulent.

From Brighton, however, it was reported that 32 cases have been investigated, and that not one has been fraudulent. In Jamaica Plain, 35 cases have been looked into, and only five are under suspicion.

Boston investigators reported one case

today where the wife and daughter of a man receiving \$13 a week from the city expressed the wish that the welfare department cut off this money. "I'm doing a little work," the woman is quoted as saying, "and my daughter gets the \$13. As soon as he gets it he blows it in."

In East Boston, of 150 cases investigated, it was unofficially stated that one third of them "looked undeserving."

One couple receiving city aid was found to have a substantial bank account, several property owners were revealed as recipients of public welfare aid, and police were unable to locate 15 persons at the addresses given.

# RENEWS ATTACK ON CITY'S COSTS

## Research Bureau Trains Its Guns on Curley's Plan To Borrow Money

### POINTS TO ADDITIONS TO EXPENSE ACCOUNT

The Boston municipal research bureau, in a public statement yesterday, renewed its attack on Mayor Curley's administration for its failure to cut city operating costs substantially as a means of meeting the problem presented by heavily augmented costs for public welfare. The bureau, headed by Atty. Bentley W. Warren, trained its guns at the same time on Mayor Curley's proposal for lightening the welfare burden by allowing Boston a share in the \$15,000,000 state bond issue asked by the Mayors' Club.

"It is the height of imprudence," said the bureau, "for Boston now to begin borrowing money to pay the city's current expenses."

The statement follows, in part:

City officials still follow the easy lure of borrowing money, to avoid the stern work of cutting Boston's daily expenses. Pointing to the vastly increased current cost of public relief work, City Hall pleads that this burden can best be lightened by allowing Boston a share in the \$15,000,000 state bond issue asked by the Mayors' Club.

That argument would have force only if Boston's ordinary expenses of government had already been reduced to a basis of economy honestly suited to the force of the present emergency. That primary work of prudence has not yet been done.

#### "SLIGHT REDUCTIONS"

While the cost of the public welfare department has risen from less than \$3,000,000 in normal times to a present annual outlay of more than \$12,000,000, the reductions thus far accomplished in the ordinary expenses of other city departments are relatively slight. These reductions have largely resulted from temporary postponement of some expenditures for repairs, equipment and maintenance of city property, and from taking advantage of lower commodity prices. Exclusive of public welfare and soldiers' relief departments, the 1932 maintenance appropriations for city, county and school departments show a decrease of

less than two per cent. from 1931 expenditures. Even if the voluntary contributions of public employees in these departments to the public welfare department are considered salary reductions, the decrease would be only five per cent. This record affords the public scant compensation for the four-fold increase of humanitarian cost caused by the widespread unemployment.

#### ADDITIONS TO EXPENSES

On the contrary, a study of recent appropriations finds evidence of many additions to the regular expense account of Boston's city government, both for maintenance and for debt service, the full effect of which will be felt in 1933 and thereafter. The 1932 city, county and school budgets provided for over 100 new employees at a cost of \$50,000 this year and of over \$100,000 in future years with the result that total payroll costs, instead of being diminished, actually are increasing.

With the ordinary budgets still moving on this upward course, it is not merely misleading but gravely dangerous to talk of lightening Boston's burden by borrowing money for the heavy current cost of the public welfare department. Though City Hall constantly refers to this cost as an extraordinary charge, and does so with justice, one thing is certain. Neither in 1932, nor yet in 1933, will Boston see the end of it. Even if business and industry should now show marked improvement, the necessary cost of public relief work is bound to continue at an abnormally high figure for a long time to come. Mayor Curley himself has predicted that for thousands of unfortunate families the winter of 1933 will be the worst yet experienced. Under these conditions, it is the height of imprudence for Boston now to begin borrowing money to pay the city's current expenses.

#### "PYRAMIDING CHARGES"

Such pyramiding of charges—both for the extraordinary continuing costs of humanitarian relief enforced by the most severe depression in modern history, and for the ordinary costs of a municipal government still operating almost as though the depression had never occurred—is all the more perilous in view of the shaky foundation on which Boston's whole present schedule of assessed valuations now rests. The collapse of the real estate market has rendered the city's whole list of taxable resources fictitiously high. The sheer weight of economic facts may at any time drive this total valuation, last fixed by the assessors at \$1,950,000,000, down to a figure as low as \$1,500,000,000 or lower.

To preserve Boston's municipal credit at the highest possible level is, therefore, a present duty of the utmost urgency. That duty is not fulfilled, but rashly neglected, by the plan of the Mayors' Club to begin borrowing now on a large scale to pay current expenses.

*AMERICAN*

8/16/32

ness ladies" that grow and enjoy life on the edge of Lake Michigan.

They attend to their duties, typewriting or managing the office, and at noon, when it is warm, they change to the costumes which you see here, take a walk along the edge of the lake, a swim in the cool water, then a brief luncheon and back to work.

They are too wise to bathe AFTER eating. You should NEVER do that—it always causes indigestion, damages health and is apt to cause dangerous cramps.

This picture will be reproduced not only in the Boston Evening American but in many other Hearst newspapers throughout the country. It is printed to let the Mayors of other cities see what can be done to make the people of a big city happy, if you really take the trouble, and if you happen to believe that lakes and parks are made for the crowd—not for the FEW.

This will interest Mayor Curley especially, because it will remind him of the wonderful things that could be done and that he would LIKE to do with the waterfront of Boston, especially the North and the West End where the poor mothers live with their children.

We are particularly fortunate, in Boston, because of the contiguity of splendid bathing beaches stretching from Provincetown and the Cape on the South to York, in Maine, on the North.

But you don't get to these beaches as a rule unless you own an automobile or unless you can afford the day and the expense which must be consumed in traveling back and forth on the steamer or the railway. How much more thoughtful and considerate we could be called if we developed some bathing beaches on the Boston shore from the Charles River Basin to the Harbor in South Boston in which the children of the tenement districts could take their daily dip and to which the workingman could repair when he returns from the arduous work of the shop or factory.

This could be done by pumping salt water from the Harbor into the little parks and idle lands behind the shore. Shallow bathing pools for little children could be arranged, and shelters to which the mothers could take their children in case of storm and in which they could find running warm water and opportunity to change the very young baby's clothes when necessary.

All that does not exist at present, and in Boston thousands live literally at the edge of the ocean who rarely see the ocean or enjoy the benefits of salt-water bathing. And they are the ones that need it most.

Mayor Curley knows this. The knowledge distresses him and he wishes that he could do for the crowd in Boston what the Chicago city government does for the crowd on the edge of Lake Michigan.

TRAVELER

8/16/32

## WELFARE FRAUD REVELATION HIT

Hecht and Cushman Protest Publication of Police Findings

## HULTMAN REFUSES TO CONCEAL FACTS

Police revelations of widespread fraud in the distribution of aid by the city yesterday roused the wrath of Simon Hecht, chairman of the city welfare board, and Roy B. Cushman, general secretary of all local social agencies, to such an extent that they visited Police Commissioner Hultman to demand that the lid be clamped on the discoveries of police in their investigations in the future.

They angrily explained that to make public the results of the police investigations would be sure to discourage further contributions to social organizations and would interfere to a considerable extent with the city's charitable work.

### ANSWERS OBJECTIONS

Answering the strong objections of his two visitors to further publicity, Commissioner Hultman said:

"Calvin Coolidge took me out of my place as a peaceful engineer and put me in public office. During the time I have held public office I have never asked the newspapers to print or to kill a story, and I don't intend to do it now."

He also reminded the two men that Hecht had requested the police investigation and at the commissioner's suggestion Hecht had obtained a written request from the mayor for a police investigation.

"Having received the letter from the mayor, I intended to go forward and investigate to the limit to find out how the frauds are worked and to learn whether any one in politics locally is at the bottom of it," Hultman declared.

He flatly refused a request by Hecht and Cushman to issue a general order preventing any member of the police department from making public the details of the investigation.

Commissioner Hultman denied that he had given out information about the

## MAYOR APPROVES \$130,000 FOR PARKWAY WORK

The action of the Park Commission in calling for the expenditure of \$130,000 for parkway construction on Center st. from Walter and Weld sts to the West Roxbury Parkway, was approved by Mayor Curley today. It is planned to complete the work the coming Winter.

AMERICAN

8/16/32

# JOBLESS IN 2 CITIES BEG MORE AID

Widespread Relief Racket Is Bared; Somerville Funds Are Gone; Ouster Plea Refused

The Boston public welfare department will be completely reorganized by Mayor Curley within a month, it was revealed today, while police continued their uncovering of relief frauds, first exposed exclusively in the Boston Evening American.

Plans for the reorganization are now being perfected and will be based on a survey, covering nearly two years, which was made by a special investigator for the mayor, it was learned.

Until the plans are complete, they will remain a secret known only to a few officials, but it was learned authoritatively that the shakeup will take place before the middle of September.

## WIDESPREAD FRAUDS

A conference at police headquarters today between Police Commissioner Hultman and four members of the overseers of the public welfare is understood to have brought out the fact that welfare racketeering in Boston is of far greater proportions than officials imagined.

Today's conference followed one between Hultman and Chairman Hecht of the welfare board yesterday, when Hecht asked for a cessation of publicity on police disclosures for the present.

Chairman Hecht today was accompanied by Edward H. Willey, Mrs. Agnes H. Parker and William H. Taylor.

In Wonderful Chicago  
Are These Professional Bathing Beauties?  
No Indeed, Just Beautiful Chicago Business Girls Having a Swim.



CHICAGO BUSINESS GIRLS ENJOY THEMSELVES

This picture, reproduced from the Chicago Herald-Examiner, shows that Chicago is the happy land for ladies that work in skyscrapers that this photograph reveals.

Chicago's city government has the strange idea that the waterfront should be made useful and pleasant to all Chicago inhabitants.

Chicago also entertains a conviction—that public parks should be run for the benefit of all citizens, for their amusement and comfort, not merely as pretty places in which the more prosperous can drive in their automobiles or ride on horseback.

This picture shows fair samples of the young Chicago "busi-

Globe

8/17/32

# BOSTON VOTING LIST FAR BELOW 1928

## Registration 50,000 Short — Curley Urges Citizens to Enroll

Boston's registration of voters to date is 247,200, of which number 11,500 have been enrolled between July 1 and Aug 1. To reach the registration of the last Presidential election it will be necessary to have 50,000 additional men and women register. The United States census returns for 1930 shows that there are in Boston 199,781 men and 204,284 women who are citizens of the United States and entitled to vote.

Mayor Curley in connection with the registration made the following statement today:

"To those persons who have been protesting against crime waves and the inability to get good liquor at a reasonable price, this information may be of value, for neither protest nor thirst will mean anything unless their names are upon the registered list.

"Several hundred persons desirous of a change in affairs nationally have already signified their intention to change their party enrollment and to those who are still possessed of the desire, we beg to direct their attention to the fact that the last day for changing party enrollment is Aug 20.

### "Important Obligation"

"One of the most important and absolutely necessary obligations of every citizen, man or woman, is that he or she take part in the management of the affairs of his or her Government. There is but one way in which you can do so, and that is by seeing to it that you are a registered voter of your city and that your name is correctly on the voting list.

"The highest number of registered voters in Boston was in the year 1928, when 160,679 names of men and 138,387 names of women were borne upon the voting list. This means that there are almost 40,000 men, and over 65,000 women who have never availed themselves of their right of franchise.

"Many people are prone to criticise the management of the Government, and the representatives of the people, yet they cannot find time to get registered and vote. Boston should have a voting strength of more than 350,000, if those entitled to vote would show an interest in their government. Too many people belittle this important duty until they need assistance, which often they cannot receive because of their own neglect. For that reason we are calling to the attention of the people the importance, especially this year, of getting on the registered voting list. Do not neglect to find out if you are a registered voter.

"This year you are called upon to elect the President and Vice President, Congressmen, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and all State officers,

### 'Songbird from South' Greeted by His Honor

Kate Smith,  
the "Big Gal"  
from the  
South,  
appearing  
this week at  
RKO Keith's  
theatre, is  
shown as she  
appeared  
yesterday at  
City Hall  
when Mayor  
James M.  
Curley  
presented her  
the  
tercentenary  
book of the  
City of  
Boston.



clerk of court and sheriff. Many important questions are waiting for your consideration and your decision. Among them the question of the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. Your votes in the selection of your Representatives will be the important factor in the deciding of this question. You cannot help to decide unless you are a voter.

### Message To The Women

"Let me say to the women of the community, as has often been said to the men, 'The City of Boston is a great corporation of which you are a stockholder. If you by chance were a stockholder in any large corporation and there was to be a meeting of the directors of that corporation to make by-laws, etc, you certainly would see to it that you or your representatives would be there to take care of your interest. There is not a corporation in the entire State to equal that of the City of Boston, in which you have as equal a right as any other citizen.'

"It seems to me, therefore, that inasmuch as you have a responsibility, that you should accept it. And that

responsibility is in the performance of your duty, and can only be done by becoming a certified member of the corporation—or a registered voter of the City of Boston. To accomplish this fact, it requires but a few moments of your time on any night or day during the registration periods, then and then only can you accept your responsibility of citizenship. We believe, therefore, that it is almost unnecessary to further state why you should become interested.

"We want our city, State, and country to have the best Government possible. We want our representatives to be of the highest standard; and upon you rests the responsibility of seeing that this is accomplished."

# Curley Hits at Tarrant King as His New Target

Says Research Bureau Director Asked 10 P. C. Tax Cut and Would Accept 3 P. C.

In the rapid series of exchanges between the Boston Municipal Research Bureau and Mayor Curley over the question of Boston expenditures the mayor today hit out at Tarrant P. King, one of the directors of the bureau, as a new target. He declared that King had sought a 10 per cent reduction in the assessment upon his "King Terminal" properties, said he would be satisfied with a 5 per cent cut, and then was willing to accept a 3 per cent reduction.

In his latest statement the mayor again assails Alexander Whiteside, and once more accuses the bureau of "abusive and untrue criticism" in its opposition to the Curley plan to have the city participate in the \$15,000,000

bond issue by the Commonwealth sought by the Mayors' Club for relief of municipalities suffering under the burden of expense of welfare assistance. The text of the mayor's statement today follows:

"The Boston Municipal Research Bureau in their latest abusive and untruthful effusion, endeavor to justify their contention that the time to establish values upon properties is when the market is at the lowest ebb and in the throes of an unprecedented industrial depression. They would have the public believe that the situation with reference to assessed values is peculiar to Boston alone.

"The fact is that vacant properties in every section of every important city in America may be found today and that the leases can be negotiated at pretty much whatever price the applicant sees fit to tender. In other words, the realty market throughout the United States is slowly emerging from the same character of complete demoralization as has been in evidence in the commodity and in the stock market. Surely no intelligent individual would attempt to justify the establishment of permanent prices upon commodities in a depression. Likewise no individual would attempt to establish security valuation upon present market prices in the present period of the depression.

## Not On Sound Premises

"It must be self-evident to every honest man that the contention of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau is neither based on sound premises nor predicated upon an honest desire to serve either the city or its people. The selfish group of raiders of assessed valuations in Boston headed by Alexander Whiteside that may protest until the end of time that they are actuated by a spirit of altruism and animated solely by the desire to conserve the standing of the city, but just so long as Mr. Whiteside and his group continue as counsel for a large proportion of the cases pending before the assessors and the Tax Appeal Board and involving many millions of dollars, just so long will it be unnecessary for me or any other individual to present evidence for the purpose of proving his motives. The prima facie evidence in the case is presented by Mr. Whiteside.

"Among the directors of the Boston

Municipal Research Bureau, I note the name of Tarrant P. King and I am surprised that one who presumably has some sense of honor, should permit his name to be issued, upon which his name appears as a signer, setting forth that the Board of Assessors are not permitted to conscientiously discharge the duties for which they are appointed.

"Mr. King, within the last week, waited upon me to secure a reduction in the assessment upon the properties controlled by him and known as the King Terminal. I immediately sent for the Board of Assessors, requesting them to sit down with Mr. King to go over the case as presented by him and to determine the same upon its merits. This has been the policy at all times, and I know no occasion for a change in the same.

"If memory serves me right, Mr. King requested a 10 per cent reduction. I asked the assessors if they considered he was entitled to it and they stated in their opinion, he was not, as he had a reduction in 1929-1930 and 1931. Mr. King then said he would be satisfied with 5 per cent and when the assessors informed him that his property was on a paying basis and that he was not entitled to any he was even willing to accept a 3 per cent reduction.

"Surely there is no justification for any individual whose values even in a depression period are as stable as the values upon the King property, in signing a statement to the effect that the assessing system of Boston rests upon a rotten foundation. In this case, in any event it could not rest on a more sound foundation and I am satisfied that provided the cases on which decision have been handed down favorable to wealthy property owners, had been tried before juries, that 90 per cent of the decisions would have been favorable to the assessing department and the city of Boston.

## Seek Valuation Reductions Only

"I note among the directors that more than 50 per cent are chronic applicants for reduced assessments, or in other words, special privilege. Every reduction in assessment of valuation granted to a wealthy property owner, means ultimately an increase in the tax rate and an added burden to every home and property owner. The outrageous feature in connection with the operations of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau raiders is that they seek reduction in valuations only, for extremely wealthy clients. The small home owner and the business man of limited resources is unable to employ the real estate experts and the expensive political lawyers that are necessary at Appeals.

"Provided the service of Mr. Whiteside and his associates was voluntary in character and that they appeared for the small home owner, as well as the wealthy real estate operators, there would be no justification.

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TRANSCRIPT  
incation for objections being raised either by myself or any other individual representing the city.

"The assessing department of the city of Boston has conducted its work during the past three years of depression conscientiously and with a complete realization of its responsibilities, both to the municipality and the people. Property values have been marked down, the total for the period being \$150,000,000.

"This policy of meeting a serious situation over a period of years is absolutely sound and any other method would not only be dangerous, but fatal. The time to determine what is a fair valuation of property is when conditions are nominal and not at the height of a period of depression. This is the position and the viewpoint of the assessing department of Boston and to it I cheerfully subscribe."

## Warren in Tart Reply

Research Bureau, singled out by Mayor Curley in the latter's bristling response to the bureau's criticism last night has taken the position that he is willing to compare his work for the State and his compensation for that work with that of the mayor "at any time." This was Warren's defense of his \$25,000 fee from the Commonwealth for his services as special assistant attorney general in the litigation between Massachusetts and Connecticut over the diversion of water from the Swift and Ware rivers, referred to by Mayor Curley as excessive and as a fit subject for investigation.

At about the time the mayor was releasing his broadside of last night, the bureau also was issuing another statement continuing its attack on the mayor's fiscal policies, particularly the tax assessment methods. "That the expenditures of the city of Boston are based on tax assessments grossly in excess of real values," the statement read, "cannot be denied by any intelligent person who has knowledge of the facts. The foundation is rotten and cannot stand."

## No Cure in "Dodging"

The statement went on to declare that "the rottenness of the assessment foundations on which most of our municipal revenues depend cannot be cured by continued dodging of the issues, or by vilification of those who call attention to the facts."

From his summer home in Williams town, Attorney Warren, in commenting on the Curley attack with relation to services in the Swift River case, said:

"If the mayor would take the trouble to look at the four volumes of the record of that case, he would probably appreciate that the work was well worth the effort. I am willing to compare my work and salary with his at any time. The rest of his criticism is not worth answering."

"I'm sick of his loud mouth and abusive talk," said Whiteside in reply to the mayor's attack. "There is nothing in the mayor's statement. He had better get down to business and stop abusing people." He added that he was not and never had been connected with the bureau in any way. The contention of the mayor that the bureau was fathered by the Massachusetts Tax Association was termed "poppycock" by Whiteside.

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*WWT*

the commonwealth. In view of the fact that the attorney general's office was not overburdened with work and there was ample legal talent to handle the case, which did not involve any intricate legal problems to a layman like myself, a fee of this character might properly be a subject for either legislative or judicial investigation. It is not unreasonable to anticipate that this favorite child of fortune, Mr. Warren, will present a substantial bill for services in the four-party railroad merger, notwithstanding the fact that his activities in the past have not been confined either to water or steam railroads. There is a service which Mr. Bentley W. Warren can render and that is to return to the commonwealth at least four-fifths of the excessive fee paid him in the water case, since, in view of the fact that the case was most simple in character, there is no way to justify the withholding of this money which conscience and common honesty dictate should be returned to the commonwealth.

#### ATTACK ON WHITESIDE

His law partner and associate, Alexander Whiteside, might render a like service by returning at least four-fifths of the fees which he has received or may receive on the \$19,000,000 of properties on which he seeks a reduction in valuation, and provided he and his associates in the Boston municipal research bureau would cease soliciting reductions in assessments on taxable properties, they would be rendering a useful service.

The fact that 100 additional employees have been added to the payrolls for the year 1932 has been stressed without any attempt at explanation. The opening of new hospital and institutional buildings, plus the added work of the overseers of public welfare department, is responsible for the entire number. All of these activities have increased during this depression and are intimately related to the problem confronting the city due to unemployment and the depression. If Mr. Warren was fair he would have stated that departments under the control of the mayor showed a reduction from the previous year of \$1,670,000, and were it not for the increased appropriations made necessary for the departments charged with the responsibility of furnishing relief, this reduction would have been reflected in the annual budget.

#### OUTSIDE OF CONTROL

The important fact overlooked by the Boston municipal research bureau, undoubtedly due to their elemental knowledge of municipal affairs, is that 57.13 per cent. of municipal expenditures in Boston are outside of the control of the mayor. In the event that the Boston municipal research bureau is really desirous of honestly aiding the taxpayers and home-owners of Boston, their energies should be devoted to the enactment of the legislation as recommended by the Mayors' Club which imposes no additional burden on any municipality or on any taxpayer, and does provide genuine relief.

The Boston municipal research bureau, through its leaders, Bentley W. Warren and Alexander Whiteside have forfeited the right to public confidence by their failure to adhere to the truth in their public statements and by their endeavors

to cloak raids on the public treasury under the guise of public service. Whiteside declined to make any formal reply to the Curley statement, but did comment informally.

"Curley," he said, "generally doesn't know what he is talking about, and this is only some of his usual, silly, abusive truck. He tries to mislead the public and in this case as in others he does not meet the issues at all. He hasn't tried to economize, and when he is criticized fairly, as in this instance, he just indulges in personal abuse."

"That's his strong suit, and I guess that's the only suit he knows how to play."

Whiteside, besides denying any connection with the bureau, ridiculed the assertion that it was an offspring of the Massachusetts Tax Association, of which he is vice-president and counsel. "That's all poppycock," he said. "Curley always has a lot of dreams that aren't true, and he says a lot of things that he knows aren't true." Whiteside was for a time corporation counsel for the city of Boston, about 13 years ago, under Mayor Andrew J. Peters.

#### BUREAU STATEMENT

The statement of the bureau, issued without reference to the mayor's attack and about at the same hour, reads as follows:

That the expenditures of the city of Boston are based on tax assessments grossly in excess of real values cannot be denied by any intelligent person who has knowledge of the facts. The foundation is rotten, and cannot stand. Delay in taking action only makes a bad situation worse. The storm may not break until after 1933, but that is no reason for a refusal of the present administration to care. The evil consequences of delay will fall on the public, and the public does care.

The assessors know all this. They know that sales of property in the market, mercantile, South end, Back Bay, and other districts at from less than half to three-quarters of assessed values are of frequent occurrence. They know that leases are being renewed at greatly reduced rentals, and that many rent concessions are being given in advance of expiration of leases, to save the tenant. They know that frequently the rent collectable is less than taxes and operating expenses. They know of the many vacancies which exist. They know of the foreclosures of mortgages taken for sums much less than assessed values. If permitted to use their own judgment, as the law intended that they should, the assessors would act. They do not act, because they are restrained by the mayor.

#### COMPARISON OF SALES

The following summarized comparison of certain sales made in the last two years, with assessed valuation, is clear proof of the situation:

In the central business district, eight properties assessed for \$771,500, sold for \$432,824, or 56 per cent. of assessed value.

In the market district and North end, 11 properties assessed for \$818,400, sold for \$530,739, or 65 per cent. of assessed value.

In the wholesale district, two properties assessed for \$152,000, sold for \$117,658, or 77 per cent. of assessed value.

In the Back Bay district, 34 properties assessed for \$1,749,100, sold for \$1,111,675, or 64 per cent. of assessed value.

In the South end district, three properties assessed for \$77,600, sold for \$38,980, or 50 per cent. of assessed value.

This, however, only tells part of the story. There is no end of real estate on the market at prices far below assessed values for which no purchaser can be found.

The records of the state board of tax appeals furnish equally strong evidence. Since the board commenced to function on Dec. 1, 1930, to Aug. 2, 1932, 844 cases involving property valuations have been filed, of which 572 have been against Boston valuations. In other words, over two-thirds of the work of the board affecting valuations is occupied by cases in Boston, which has only one-fourth of the valuation of the entire state.

In the 45 Boston cases decided so far by the board, the total valuation of \$52,870,000 as set by the Boston assessors has been abated \$11,268,000, or 21 per cent. In 56 other cases which have been settled by "stipulated agreement" between the owners and the Boston assessors, the original valuation of \$22,936,000 has been reduced \$2,894,000, or 13 per cent. Four hundred and twenty-four cases, concerning a valuation of \$164,638,000, are pending.

It should be noted that all of these cases involve valuations set by the Boston assessors in 1931 or earlier. In the period since those valuations were made, property values have continued to fall.

The rottenness of the assessment foundations on which most of our municipal revenues depend, cannot be cured by continued dodging of the issues, or by vilification of those who call attention to the facts. Disaster can be avoided only by prompt revision of expenditures so as to bring them in line with the depleted public purse. Let us have an end of evasion, and let us face the facts. It is high time for honest and courageous action.

The litigation in which Bentley W. Warren appeared as special assistant attorney-general in behalf of the state of Massachusetts involved a dispute between this state and Connecticut over the diversion of waters by Massachusetts from the Ware and Swift rivers for use in the water supply system of metropolitan Boston. Connecticut, contending the project would materially decrease the flow of water in the Connecticut river and injure the state's interests, sought to block the diversion of water from the two Massachusetts rivers, which feed the Connecticut. The case consumed three years and ended in the United States supreme court with a decision favorable to Massachusetts, although it left the door open for a subsequent suit against Massachusetts should it appear that the interests of Connecticut were in fact being substantially injured. Atty.-Gen. Joseph E. Warner, in commenting on the outcome, warmly praised Mr. Warren's work in the case. He said: "Mr. Warren has labored unremittingly in the defense of the rights of Massachusetts in one of the most complicated pieces of litigation, both as to law and fact in which the state has ever been engaged. The commonwealth owes him an immense debt of gratitude."

Besides Chairman Warren, the board of directors of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau comprises the following:

William Dexter, vice-chairman; William A. Parker, treasurer; Francis R. Bangs, George E. Cabot, Russell S. Codman, John J. Cornish, Fred A. Dakin, George L. DeBlois, William Arthur Dupee, Lee M. Friedman, Augustus F. Goodwin, Francis C. Gray, Henry P. Kendall, Tarrant P. King, Archibald G. Monks, Arthur P. Russell, Henry L. Shattuck, Stephen W. Sleeper, Charlie M. Storey, Michael H. Sullivan and Charles W. Whittier.

H. HERALD 8/17/32

# MAYOR ACCUSES RESEARCH BODY

Calls Critics 'Treasury  
Raiders'—Tells Warren  
To Give Back Fees

## RAPS WHITESIDE, TOO; 'SILLY TRUCK,' RETORT

Mayor Curley yesterday replied to criticism of his financial policies made by the Boston municipal research bureau and at the same time launched a sensational attack on the organization and some of its members, accusing them of deliberate and malicious falsehood and of resorting to "raids upon the public treasury under the guise of public service."

The statement bristled with strong language and pointed allegations which attributed "sinister activities" to the bureau and motives other than desire for public service to some of its directors.

Bentley W. Warren, chairman of the directors of the bureau, and his law partner, Alexander Whiteside, were singled out for special attack in the statement. The \$25,000 fee which Warren received from the state a year ago for his work as special assistant attorney-general in the litigation between Massachusetts and Connecticut over the diversion of water from the Swift and Ware rivers was referred to by the mayor as excessive and as a fit subject for investigation.

### MIGHT RETURN FEES

Whiteside, the mayor declared, might render a public service "by returning at least four-fifths of the fees he has received or may receive upon the \$19,000,000 of properties upon which he seeks a reduction in valuation." As a group, the members of the bureau would be rendering a "useful service" if they "would cease soliciting reductions in assessments upon taxable properties," the mayor declared. Previously he indicated his belief that the activities of the bureau included "the soliciting of clients for whom they might secure abatements . . ."

While the mayor was issuing his statement, the Boston municipal research bureau, unaware of the renewal of the mayor's attack, was issuing a statement of its own in which it continued its assault on Curley's fiscal policies and particularly the tax assessing methods in use.

"That the expenditures of the city of Boston are based on tax assessments grossly in excess of real values," said the bureau's statement, "cannot be denied by any intelligent person who has knowledge of the facts. The foundation is rotten and cannot stand."

At another point the statement said, "The rottenness of the assessment foundations on which most of our municipal revenues depend cannot be

cured by continued dodging of the issues, or by vilification of those who call attention to the facts."

Atty. Bentley W. Warren was out of town last night and could not be reached for comment on the Curley statement. Whiteside, named by the mayor as a leader in the research bureau, said he was not and never had been connected with the bureau in any way. He ridiculed the mayor's statement, characterizing it as "some of his usual, silly, abusive truck." The mayor's contention that the bureau was fathered by the Massachusetts Tax Association, he termed "poppycock."

In his statement, Mayor Curley defended his stand in favor of a \$15,000,000 bond issue by the state as a means of relieving harassed cities of the commonwealth, and declared that the method of inviting city employes to contribute a portion of their pay to welfare relief work of the city, as adopted in Boston, was sane and constructive and the only practical way of lessening city expenditures.

The bureau, in its public statements, has directed its attack chiefly at the \$15,000,000 bond issue sponsored by the Mayors' Club and warmly favored by Mayor Curley, and at the city administration's failure to affect substantial reduction of operating costs as a means of meeting the problem of heavily augmented welfare disbursements.

The mayor's statement was prompted by criticism of his policy on these two points, as contained in a recent statement of the bureau.

### MAYOR'S STATEMENT

The mayor's statement follows:

The Boston municipal research bureau, with a view to cloaking their sinister activities, would have the public believe that the \$15,000,000 bond issue sought by the municipalities of the commonwealth is to be expended for the conduct of ordinary municipal activities and that the passage of this legislation would impose a permanent burden. This is a deliberate and malicious falsehood, since specific provision is made that the bond issue be amortized through the allocation of \$3,000,000 annually for a period of 5 years from the receipts of the highway fund, derived from gasoline tax and automobile fees, and not through taxation. That the allocation of such money is imperative is best attested by the applications, as announced through the press, already pending before the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, not only from the city in which his excellency the Governor resides, but the town in which the senior United States senator resides. In my opinion, no municipality of the commonwealth should be obliged to seek federal aid in the present emergency until every possible avenue through which relief may be provided has been exhausted by the commonwealth.

I have read over the list of directors of the Boston municipal research bureau and find that a majority of the directors have been a material factor in making difficult the conduct of affairs in Boston either efficiently or economically. In view of their activities before the assessing board of Boston and before the state board of tax appeal, and in the raising of a fund for the purpose of securing special and unjust privileges in the matter of tax abatements, the organization should change its name from the Boston municipal research bureau to the raiders' bureau.

### CHARGES FALSEHOOD

Provided the activities of this organization were confined solely to

the soliciting of clients for whom they might secure abatements on properties, their actions, while reprehensible, might not justify too great condemnation but when, in order to achieve their object they resort to deliberate falsehood and attack the credit of the city, they embark upon a program which may ultimately do grave injury.

The city of Boston sought or favored the enactment of legislation in the opening months of the present year which, if enacted would have made unnecessary an increase in the tax rate this year. The parent organization of the Boston municipal research bureau, namely, the Massachusetts Tax Association, did not appear in favor of a single measure of legislation sought by the city of Boston for the relief of the tax payers, but privately opposed many of the measures. Provided the legislative program as recommended by the city of Boston at the recent session of the Legislature had been supported by the parent organization, and by the other agencies that are now so volatile, sufficient revenue would have been made available to offset the extraordinary burdens imposed upon the municipalities by the commonwealth.

Emphasis is laid upon the failure of the city to effect economies in keeping with the opinion as expressed by the chairman of the board of directors of the Boston municipal research bureau, notwithstanding the fact that under the law the mayor is powerless to reduce salaries of county officials or employees of the school department, or even municipal employees directly under the control of the mayor, except in conformity with the provisions of existing civil service laws and regulations.

The only way in which economy could be effected was by voluntary contributions upon the part of employes, and, in my opinion, the program determined upon and now in operation is as equitable as one might expect, in view of the fact that many persons now employed find it necessary not only to provide for the support of their own families but for relatives as well who are without employment due to the industrial depression. The program as adopted in Boston has been both sane and constructive and is in striking contrast with the failure by the commonwealth, either in its legislative body or in its public employes, to practise economies in the matter of salaries in any particular.

The Boston municipal research bureau, provided I interpret their communication correctly, favor a reduction in salaries of at least 25 per cent. and the discharge of about 25 per cent. of persons now in the employ of the municipality. In my opinion a program of this character is economically unwise and unsound, since it would mean a transfer from the municipal payrolls of individuals receiving remuneration for work actually performed to the welfare rolls where money is paid with but a limited return in labor.

There is a service that might be rendered by both Mr. Bentley W. Warren and Mr. Alexander Whiteside, if they are really desirous of aiding the commonwealth and the municipality.

### WATER SUPPLY CASE

Bentley W. Warren collected from the commonwealth \$25,000 for legal services as special attorney in connection with the water supply for

HERALD

8/17/32

# CURLEY DENIES ASSESSMENTS ARE EXCESSIVE

## Replies to Charges of Municipal Research Bureau

Renewing his controversy with the Boston Municipal Research Bureau, Mayor Curley, in a statement today, vigorously denied the bureau's assertion that the tax assessments of the city are grossly in excess of true values and rest on a "rotten" foundation.

### MAYOR'S STATEMENT

He declared that the time to determine fair valuations of property is when conditions are normal and not during a temporary period of depression. He again assailed some of the members of the bureau for being prompted in their attacks on him by motives which he said are selfish and reflect their interest in special privilege.

The statement follows:

"The Boston municipal research bureau in their latest abusive and untruthful effusion, endeavor to justify their contention that the time to establish values upon properties is when the market is at the lowest ebb and in the throes of an unprecedented industrial depression. They would have the public believe that the situation with reference to assessed values is peculiar to Boston alone.

The fact is that vacant properties in every section of every important city in America may be found today and that the leases can be negotiated at pretty much whatever price the applicant sees fit to tender. In other words, the realty market throughout the United States is slowly emerging from the same character of complete demoralization as has been in evidence in the commodity and in the stock market. Surely no intelligent individual would attempt to justify the establishment of permanent prices upon commodities in a depression. Likewise no individual would attempt to establish security valuation upon present market prices in the present period of the depression. It must be self-evident to every honest man that the contention of the Boston municipal research bureau is neither based on sound premises nor predicated upon an honest desire to serve either the city or its people.

### QUESTIONS SINCERITY

"The selfish group of raiders of assessed valuations in Boston headed by Alexander Whiteside may protest until the end of time that they are actuated by a spirit of altruism and animated solely by the desire to conserve the standing of the city, but just so long as Mr. Whiteside and his group continue as counsel for a large proportion of the cases pending before the assessors and the tax appeal board and involving many millions of dollars and just so

long as Mr. Whiteside continues to invite business upon mortgages held by the Atlantic National Bank or other interests, just so long will it be unnecessary for me or any other individual to present evidence for the purpose of proving his motives.

The *prima facie* evidence in the case is presented by Mr. Whiteside. Among the directors of the Boston municipal research bureau, I note the name of Tarrant P. King and I am surprised that one who presumably has some sense of honor, should permit a statement to be issued, upon which his name appears as a signer, setting forth that the board of assessors are not permitted to conscientiously discharge the duties for which there are appointed.

"Mr. King within the last week, waited upon me to secure a reduction in the properties controlled by him and known as the King Terminal. I immediately sent for the board of assessors, requesting them to sit down with Mr. King to go over the case as presented by him and to determine the same upon its merits. This has been the policy at all times, and I know no occasion for a change in the same.

If my memory serves me right, Mr. King requested a 10 per cent. reduction. I asked the assessors if they considered he was entitled to it and they stated, in their opinion, he was not, as he had a reduction in 1929, 1930 and 1931. Mr. King then said he would be satisfied with 5 per cent. and when the assessors informed him that his property was on a paying basis and that he was not entitled to any, he was even willing to accept a 3 per cent. reduction.

### CHRONIC APPLICANTS

"Surely there is no justification for any individual whose values even in a depression period are as stable as the values upon the King property, in signing a statement to the effect that the assessing system of Boston rests upon a rotten foundation. In this case, in any event it could not rest on a more sound foundation and I am satisfied that provided the cases on which decisions have been handed down favorable to wealthy property owners, had been tried before juries, that 90 per cent. of the decisions would have been more favorable to the assessing department and the city of Boston.

"I note among the directorate that more than 50 per cent. are chronic applicants for reduced assessments, or in other words, special privilege.

"Every reduction in assessment of valuation granted to a wealthy property owner means ultimately in an increase in the tax rate and added burden to every home and property owner. The outrageous feature in connection with the operations of the Boston municipal research bureau raiders is that they seek reduction in valuations only for extremely wealthy clients. The small home owner and the business man of limited resources is unable to employ the real estate experts and the expensive political lawyers that are necessary at hearings before the state board of tax appeals.

### DEFENDS ASSESSORS

"Provided the service of Mr. Whiteside and his associates was voluntary in character and that they appeared for the small home owner, as well as the wealthy real estate operators, there would be no justification for objections being raised either by myself or any other individual representing the city.

"The assessing department of the city of Boston has conducted its work during the past three years of depression conscientiously and with a complete realization of its responsibilities, both to

the municipality and the people for a period of three years. Property values have been marked down, the total for the period being \$150,000,000.

This policy of meeting a serious situation over a period of years is absolutely sound, and any other method would not only be dangerous, but fatal. The time to determine what is a fair valuation of property is when conditions are normal, and not at the height of a period of depression. This is the position and the viewpoint of the assessing department of Boston, and to it I cheerfully subscribe.

AMERICAN 8/17/32

## If You Want Liquor Cheap, Register, Says Curley

Persons interested in the purchase of good liquor at reasonable prices, and those who have been protesting against crime waves, had better get on the voting list, Mayor Curley said today.

"The election department discloses the fact that the total number of persons registered as voters to date is 247,000," the Mayor said. "The total registration for the last presidential election was 299,000, so that it is necessary that more than 50,000 women and men register if the voting list for 1932 is to be as large as that of 1928."

"To persons who have been protesting against crime waves and

the inability to get good liquor at a reasonable price this information may be of value, for neither protest nor thirst will mean anything unless their names are on the registered list.

"Several hundred persons desirous of a change in national affairs have already signified their intention to change their party enrollment and to those who are still possessed of that desire I beg to direct their attention to the fact that the last day for changing party enrollment is August 20."

The mayor stated that from July 1 to date 11,500 have registered.

HERALD

8/17/32

## Bogus Republicans on Curley's Election Workers' Lists, Is Charge

The Republican state committee will investigate charges that Mayor Curley is packing the lists of election workers with the names of bogus Republicans. Complaints of irregularities in the current method of making appointments were made yesterday to executive committee, and Herman Hormel, Charles H. Innis and Senator Henry Parkman were designated to serve on an investigating committee.

The reports indicated that Mayor Curley is appointing to the positions of counters and checkers recipients of public welfare aid, who proceed to change their party designation from Democrat to Republican to cover the law.

The Republican sub-committee will

wait on the election commissioners and demand that genuine Republicans be appointed to these positions.

Mayor Curley said last night that he has no knowledge of the alleged practices and said that Election Commissioner Peter F. Tague would handle any complaints in a fair manner.

"Let them take up their complaints," he said, "with Commissioner Tague of the election board. I am sure that his conscience would not permit him to violate the purity of the ballot. Could it be possible that some Boston Democrats actually are engaging in such a nefarious practice? I compliment the Republicans on their vigilance and assure them that they need not worry about unfairness. The voters will take care of them at the next election without any interference on our part."

paying basis, sought to secure a reduction of 3 per cent, Mayor Curley stated today.

These statements were contained in another broadside directed at the bureau and are a continuation of the quarrel which began recently when members of the organization attacked the Mayor.

### TARRANT P. KING NAMED

"I note the name of Tarrant P. King among the directors of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau," the Mayor said,

"Mr. King within the past week waited upon me to secure a reduction in the assessment upon the properties controlled by him and known as the King Terminal. I immediately sent for the Board of Assessors, requesting them to sit down with Mr. King.

"This has been the policy at all times and I know no occasion for a change in the same. If my memory serves me right, Mr. King requested a 10 per cent reduction. I asked the assessors if they considered he was entitled to it and they stated in their opinion he was not as he had reductions in 1929-30 and in 1931.

### AGREED TO 3 PER CENT

"Mr. King then said he would be satisfied with five per cent and when the assessors informed him that his property was on a paying basis and that he was not entitled to any he was even willing to accept a three per cent reduction.

"The selfish group of raiders of assessed valuations in Boston, headed by Alexander Whiteside, may protest until the end of time that they are actuated by a spirit of altruism and animated solely by the desire to conserve the standing of the city, but just so long as Mr. Whiteside and his group continue as counsel for a large proportion of the cases pending before the assessors and the tax appeal board and involving many millions of dollars, and just so long as Mr. Whiteside continues to invite business upon mortgages held by the Atlantic National Bank or other interests, just so long will it be unnecessary for me or any other individual to present evidence for the purpose of proving his motives."

## BOSTON BOARD OF ASSESSORS DEFENDED

50 P. C. of Municipal Research  
Directorate Cited in an  
Attack by Curley

Fifty per cent of the directorate of the Boston municipal research bureau are chronic applicants for reduced assessments on their properties, and one member in particular having been refused reductions first of 10 and then of 5 per cent, on property that is on a

AMERICAN

8/17/32

# IDLE IN RUSH TO BOSTON FOR 'EASY PICKINGS'

Chicago Autoist and Vermont  
Newlyweds Get City Aid;  
Scores of Frauds Bared

Further amazing revelations of city aid frauds, including the case of a Chicago single man who admitted coming to Boston with his automobile to get "easy welfare pickings," were made today as City Councillor David M. Brackman of Roxbury demanded an investigation of visitors employed in the welfare department.

Another case uncovered by police today was that of a newly-wed couple from Vermont who came here on behest of friends after their honeymoon, to live on the city because there was no dole where they lived.

#### MANY FRAUDS BARED

Other outstanding developments today in the probe of welfare racketeering, which was originally revealed by the Boston Evening American, were:

**BOSTON**—Hundreds of letters, anonymous and otherwise, received at police headquarters "tipping" the authorities to fraudulent cases. Numerous cases of home-owners, receiving aid, revealed. Councillor Brackman voices suspicion of collusion.

**CHELSEA**—Welfare board drops 11 from aid list, cuts doles of others. Arranges to put 20 unemployed a day on ash removal, saving \$24,000 a year on the ash removal contract.

**EVERETT**—Situation still unsettled, with unemployed men and widows declaring they cannot live on amounts allotted.

**QUINCY**—Probe of 500 welfare cases started to purge the list of "fakers."

**SOMERVILLE**—Aldermen transfer \$89,000 from other department funds to provide money for aiding the needy.

**MALDEN**—Old rate of allowances restored, after protest, and investigation for frauds renewed.

**WATERTOWN**—Court trials reveal one man received \$577 aid while having an \$800 bank account and owning seven house lots. Another has worked steadily for 70 weeks, but took aid from the town.

The Chicago man who drove here to get himself on the welfare list for \$10 a week admitted to Boston police investigators, it was learned, that local friends had informed him it was easy to collect public aid here. He said he thought it better than staying around Chicago looking for a job.

His admissions, and those of others questioned by police, are understood to have resulted in the immediate dropping of their names from the lists, thereby saving the city money without further investigation.

The newlywed couple from Vermont were also collecting \$10 a week and told the same story of being urged by friends to come here.

One man was found who has lived here 42 years without taking out citizenship papers. He said he could not read or write. He had \$800 in the bank, however, and had put his son through the New England Conservatory of Music.

#### LANDLORD GETS DOLE

The father was getting \$12 a week city aid. He admitted his son had never tried to get work, but occasionally got a chance to play at dances. Father and son have been living on the public aid for 20 months.

Numerous other aliens were found to be receiving aid, police said, although this is not illegal unless other circumstances are against them.

An owner of a three-family house, receiving a total of \$34 rent from his two tenants, while he lived in one of the suites himself, first appealed to the city for a baby carriage and upon receiving it put in a bid for a dole. He was granted \$14 a week. He has five children.

Another man was found receiving \$10 weekly on which he claimed to be supporting his son, the latter's wife and a grandchild. A police officer questioned the son who said they did not want city aid any more as he was going to New Hampshire to accept a good job.

#### CURLEY IN WARNING

A number of other families, it was learned, told the police investigators:

"We don't want any more aid. Take us off the list."

Warning was issued by Mayor Curley that all receiving doles illegally should take steps immediately to be taken off the public welfare roles, as they will otherwise be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Finding of radios and automobiles, owned by families receiving aid, has been a common occurrence. A Dorchester woman, living with one daughter and receiving \$5

weekly from another daughter, is on the welfare board for \$13 a week, despite the fact that she has no expense that the daughters do not take care of for her.

#### DOLE ADDS TO RICHES

A Mattapan home-owner, receiving \$75 a month rent from a two-family house, is receiving city aid in addition. Another Mattapan man, owning a single house, sold it and bought a two-family dwelling. He gave it to his daughter and had himself put on the dole list.

Another case discovered in Mattapan is that of a father who receives \$14 for himself and his family from the city, while a son was found to be receiving a \$7 dole.

The hundreds of letters received at police headquarters, not only by the special division of public aid investigation and its commander, Deputy Supt. Thomas F. Goode, but also by Supt. Crowley and other high officials, gave further information on cases already revealed and cited numerous additional cases. All will be investigated.

#### GIVEN ASHES JOBS.

The Chelsea welfare board made arrangements with the ash removal contractor to use unemployed men from the welfare list to the number of 20 a day. The contractor will use only his own trucks and drivers and the city will thereafter pay him \$18 a day, instead of a much larger sum, the saving being at the rate of \$24,000 a year.

Three families had their doles cut and 11 persons, chiefly old men and women were dropped from the list. The latter will be cared for by their sons and daughters.

Aroused by disclosures of the police investigators, Councillor Brackman sent a communication to the Overseers of the Public Welfare in part as follows:

"It is my understanding that the police department, who are conducting this investigation, will in the near future make a partial official report of their investigation.

"In order to expedite this investigation, may I suggest to the board that at its next meeting it order a separate investigation, particularly in relation to the visitors who were either so overburdened with cases that they had not the time to even investigate the authenticity of an individual's address or who were in collusion with the recipients of said funds?"

"I can conceive of cases where it would be possible for one individual to receive aid if in collusion with a visitor under 10 or 12 fictitious or false names."

Post

8/17/32

# CLAIMS FEE FOUR TIMES OVER VALUE

## Curley Hits Warren Charge—Assails “Raiders”

Responding to the attacks of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau upon his administration, Mayor Curley last night called upon the organization to change its name to the “Raiders’ Bureau,” and challenged its leading sponsors to return to the public treasury money which he claimed they had collected in the form of “excessive fees.”

### ASSAILS \$25,000 FEE

Directing his guns at Attorney Bentley W. Warren, chairman of the bureau, the Mayor charged that “conscience and common decency dictated” the return to the State treasury of four-fifths of the \$25,000 fee which he protested the attorney received as special counsel for the Commonwealth in the Swift River water supply litigation against Connecticut.

The water supply case was characterized as “most simple in character” by the Mayor, who contended that the \$25,000 fee “might properly be a subject for either legislative or judicial investigation.”

### Scores Whiteside, Too

Turning to Alexander Whiteside, Attorney Bentley’s law partner and sharp critic of City Hall, the Mayor contended that the latter would perform a useful service to the taxpayers by returning at least four-fifths of the fees which he has received or will receive for seeking tax reductions on \$19,000,000 worth of property through petitions for abatements before the assessors and the State Board of Tax Appeals.

“The Boston Municipal Research Bureau, through its leaders, Bentley W. Warren and Alexander Whiteside, has forfeited the right to public confidence by its failure to adhere to the truth in its public statements and by its endeavors to cloak raids upon the public treasury under the guise of public service,” retorted the Mayor, accusing the bureau of indulging in “deliberate and malicious falsehood” in its criticism of the city administration.

### Defends New Employees

Replying to the bureau’s protest that instead of reducing the number of city employees, 100 additional had been appointed during the past year, the Mayor charged that the bureau was unfair in refusing to point out that the additional

workers were necessary at the City Hospital and other institutions and in the public welfare department to care for the depression demands of the poor and the unemployed.

The Mayor stated that although the bureau wanted a 25 per cent wage cut for city employees, as well as the discharge of 5000 workers, he was powerless to act, under the civil service laws. He argued also that if city employees were fired it would be necessary to support them on the unemployed relief rolls and obtain no return for the city’s expenditures. Such a policy, he alleged, was “unwise and unsound.”

### As to Budget Cut

Referring to the bureau’s protest that the budget cut amounted to only 5 per cent, the Mayor replied that he reduced the department expenditures this year \$1,670,000 below the 1931 expenses in the departments under the Mayor’s control, but he pointed out that 57.13 per cent of the expenditures are outside the mayoral control.

At his summer home at Williams-town, Attorney Warren last night defended his fee for appearing for the State in its conflict with Connecticut over the diversion of the Swift River water supply.

If the Mayor would take the trouble to look at the four volumes of the record of that case, he would probably appreciate that the work was well worth the fee. I am willing to compare my work and salary with his at any time. The rest of his criticism is not worth answering.”

### Sick of Loud Mouth

Alexander Whiteside, who served as corporation counsel for the city during the administration of former Mayor Peters, was quick in his retort to the Mayor. “I’m sick of his loud mouth and abusive talk,” replied Attorney Whiteside. “There is nothing in the Mayor’s statement. He had better get down to business and stop abusing people,” snapped the former corporation counsel, adding “And you can so quote me.”

The Research Bureau itself issued another statement protesting that the “rotteness of the assessment foundations on which the municipal revenues depend cannot be cured by continued dodging of the issues or by vilification of those who call attention to the facts. It is high time for honest and courageous action. Let us have an end of evasion and let us face the facts,” warned the bureau.

### Sales Under Valuation

The Mayor was accused of refusing to permit the city assessors to make reductions in the assessed valuations of property, despite the deflation of real estate values.

Frequent sales in the market, mercantile, South End, Back Bay and other districts of the city showed property going for less than a half of the assessed valuation, the bureau protested, claiming that the assessors were well aware of cases in which the rents received by the property owners were less than the taxes and the operating expenses, and that property was being foreclosed at less than the assessed valuation.

### Really “Raiders’ Bureau”

Commenting on the tax situation, the Mayor replied:

“I have read over the list of directors of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau and find that a majority of the directors have been a material factor in making difficult the conduct of affairs in Boston either efficiently or economically.

In view of their activities before the assessing board of Boston and before the State Board of Tax Appeal, and

in the raising of a fund for the purpose of securing special and unjust privileges in the matter of tax abatement, the organization should change its names from the Boston Municipal Research Bureau to the Raiders Bureau.”

Globe 8/17/32

## CURLEY SENDS MESSAGE TO BOARDMAN’S WIFE

Mayor Curley today was gratified to learn of the improvement in the condition of Russell N. Boardman, Boston aviator, injured yesterday in Springfield. Boardman and Polando on their return from their record flight to Turkey were guests of the city and were presented trophies by the Mayor.

The following telegram was sent today by Mayor Curley to Mrs Boardman, wife of the injured pilot:

“The Associated Press has just advised me that Mr Boardman is resting comfortably this morning and that there is an assurance of his ultimate recovery. I am especially gratified by this reassuring statement.

“My deepest sympathy is extended to you in the ordeal through which you are passing.

“Kindly assure your dear husband that he is receiving the prayers of everyone in Boston, both within and without the circle of his acquaintance.”

## PARKER HEADS NEW HOUSING BOARD

William Stanley Parker, member of the city planning board, was elected chairman of the advisory committee on housing, recently created by Mayor James M. Curley, at an organization meeting yesterday. Other officers elected were Christian Herter, vice-chairman; Elisabeth M. Herlihy, secretary, and John Ihider, technical advisor. The committee wired Franklin W. Fort, chairman of the Home Loan Bank, Washington, urging establishment of a branch here.

Herald

8/17/32

## CURLEY APPROVES PLAN FOR NEW W. R. PARKWAY

Mayor Curley yesterday approved plans of Park Commissioner Long for construction of a parkway to connect Centre street, West Roxbury, with the new West Roxbury parkway, now being constructed by the state. The parkway, to cost approximately \$130,000, will be 3500 feet in length and will connect with Centre street at a point near Walters street. Mayor Curley said it was hoped to have the contract awarded in time to permit work on the roadway to be started in the early winter.

Globe

8/17/32

# TO FIGHT FOR ELECTION JOBS

"Curley Republicans" Are  
Named, G. O. P. Charge

Committee Threatens to Take  
Matter to Courts

Bona fide Republicans are being given no consideration in Boston for posts as election officials and clerks, chairmen of ward committees told the Republican City Committee of Boston yesterday at the Boston City Club.

It was charged that "Curley Republicans" and Democrats who have suddenly switched their political allegiance to the Republican party are being given the posts which should go to bona fide Republicans. Fear was expressed by one of the committee that if the situation continued "it would mean turning over the conduct of elections to the Democrats."

Charles H. Innes, Herman Hormel and Senator Henry Parkman were appointed as a committee to bring the matter before the Election Commissioners of the city of Boston today.

The committee was instructed to ask for a fair deal and if they do not receive it, the Republicans assert they will go into the courts and seek legal relief.

### Chairman Not Consulted

Republican chairmen of the ward committees complained that they used to be consulted about the appointments but are no longer. It was charged that Mayor Curley now takes the welfare list and appoints those listed as Republicans to the posts but that most of these are persons who are friendly to Curley interests or are veteran Democrats who have suddenly become nominal Republicans on the rolls for the purpose of aiding the Democratic Party.

It was said at the meeting that the Mayor contends the appointment is not entirely a political matter because he is giving work to people who need it and is saving the city money as the recipients are off the welfare list when employed. The spokesman argued that the Republicans were entitled to a "50-50 break" and were not getting it.

### Executive Committee Meets

The executive committee of the Republican City Committee held a largely attended meeting at which the charges were presented and discussed.

Chairman Grafton L. Cushing of the city committee, who presided, outlined the work to be carried out under conditions requiring unusual economy. National Committeeman John Richardson sketched the plans for raising funds, while State Chairman Amos L. Taylor laid down the major lines of attack for the campaign.

Among the representatives present

was Lt-Gov William S. Youngman as chairman of his ward.

### "Untrue," Says Mayor

Mayor Curley said last night that the charges were untrue. He said that he had always sought to keep the election department "pure and on a high order." "I am sure," added the Mayor, "that Mr Tague has done so too, and that he feels in the matter as I do. We have always sought to keep the election department honest and efficient so that everyone's right to vote will be properly safeguarded."

TRANSCRIPT

8/17/32

### Angry Words Sell No Real Estate

Mayor Curley seems unable to realize that the decline of real estate values since 1929 brings Boston face to face not with a theory, but with a serious and very definite condition. Strong words whether of argument or abuse, can have no effect upon the issue whatever. The facts speak for themselves in a controlling voice. Actual sales of property in the downtown district, in the South End the Back Bay and other sections of Boston are being made at from one-half to three-quarters of their assessed values. Today the Municipal Research Bureau has summarized characteristic sales made during the past two years, and in order that there may be no doubt of the facts, the bureau's summary is reproduced here:

In the central business district, eight properties assessed for \$771,500 sold for \$432,824 or 56 per cent of assessed value.

In the market district and North End, eleven properties assessed for \$818,400, sold for \$530,739, or 65 per cent of assessed value.

In the wholesale district, two properties assessed for \$152,000, sold for \$117,658, or 77 per cent of assessed value.

In the Back Bay district, thirty-four properties assessed for \$1,749,100, sold for \$1,111,675, or 64 per cent of assessed value.

In the South End district, three properties assessed for \$77,600, sold for \$38,980, or 50 per cent of assessed value.

With such facts in evidence, it is idle to say that real estate owners in this city, or their lawyers, have entered into any manner of conspiracy to secure unwarranted abatements of assessed values. Does anyone suppose that there is a single property-holder in Boston who welcomes the sale of his real estate at such depreciated prices, or who would not do anything he could to obtain better prices, if better terms were possible? In case after case, individual parcels of real estate downtown today are not earning enough income to pay the costs of upkeep together with taxes. In many

instances, in order to save tenants from ruin, it has been necessary to grant lower rents even before existing leases have expired. In still other cases, neither buyers nor tenants can be found on any acceptable terms.

For many years in the past Boston's city government was favored by fortunate economic conditions. Real estate values, for the most part, gained slowly but steadily from year to year; and, as the total valuation increased, the mayors could constantly spend larger and larger sums in their annual budgets without encountering any crucial difficulty. Now the economic trend has undergone a great reversal. Revision of real estate valuations, to bring the assessments in line with actual conditions, are necessary and unavoidable.

In Chicago, as in Fall River, the municipal authorities steadily resisted fair revision of assessed values, until finally the whole top-heavy structure collapsed. All the land in Chicago had to be revalued at once, and this process took two years. The prostration of Chicago's credit which ensued in that period everyone knows. Here in Massachusetts, thanks to the creation of the State Board of Tax Appeal, a means has been provided for gradually bringing about fair and honest re-valuations in serial order. This is a salutary process, designed to protect the city no less than individual real estate owners from the calamity certain to overtake them if the Chicago and Fall River policy should be stubbornly pursued here without timely redress. These are the basic facts of the situation, and the sooner Boston's municipal government recognizes these facts in their true light, the better it will be for all concerned.

Post

8/17/32

# MAYOR WARNS AID FAKERS TO GET OFF ROLLS

## Prosecution Only Alternative—Fraud Cases Pile Up—Couple Buying Houses Drawing City Help

Warning to jobless fakers to stop drawing money from the city's welfare funds was sounded yesterday by Mayor Curley in commenting on disclosures recently made by police investigation of unemployment relief cases.

### QUIT OR FACE COURT

"Indications are that it would be advisable for those not entitled to welfare relief to cease accepting aid, or they must take the consequences of police investigation and prosecution," the Mayor said. He declined, however, to offer immunity to the fakers who quit the welfare rolls now, explaining that the entire matter rested in the hands of the police.

"The welfare investigation has been turned over to the police and Commissioner Hultman is now working on it," said the Mayor. "I have left the matter to the welfare and the police departments."

### Fraud Cases Pile Up

Instances of fraud among persons receiving city aid continued to pile up at an alarming rate yesterday, as police officers throughout the city pushed their probe, while overseers of the public welfare department met in secret conclave with Commissioner Hultman at police headquarters.

The meeting between the welfare overseers and the police head was the second in two days and was in session while rumors were current that the welfare directors were greatly alarmed by the evidence of wholesale fraud laid bare by the police investigation. What went on at the conference was not disclosed, but it is believed that official reports from police investigators were presented to the overseers to acquaint them with the full extent of the charity frauds.

### Buy Houses; Draw Aid

Outstanding among the new cases unearthed by police investigators yesterday was that of a woman who

sought aid from the welfare department and, within a week after her case had been declared a worthy one, contracted to buy \$400 worth of furniture on the installment plan.

Another case investigated revealed that a man and woman who were receiving aid from the city on the assumption that they were in dire straits have bought and sold houses six different times within the past year. Police said that they were ready to prove that the couple made money on each real estate transaction and were in reality very well fixed financially.

### East Boston Worst

Investigating the case of a semi-recluse in the East Boston district who has been receiving financial assistance regularly, the police probers found that he had squandered most of the money on moonshine. His record at the police station showed that he had been arrested on 17 different occasions. Drunkenness was his usual offence, but the records also revealed that he had been arrested at least once for larceny and once for the misappropriation of property.

Together with these disclosures came the alarming announcement from police that approximately one-third of the 150 cases investigated in the East Boston district were fraudulent. In that district, police said, every device known in the charity racket had been adopted by undeserving persons to bleed the public treasury.

### Many False Addresses

Fifteen persons gave false addresses and were never heard of at the places in which they were supposed to be living. Several of those obtaining aid were found to have substantial bank accounts. A man and his child supposedly destitute and without friends were found living with the man's mother, who owns her own home and has a bank account totalling \$2600. Thus far the frauds exposed in the East Boston district have been far in excess of those unearthed in any other section of the city.

Asked to comment on the progress of the police investigation last night, Commissioner Hultman said that he has nothing to say at this time. When he has received the complete reports on 500 cases, the commissioner said, he will be able to obtain a true perspective of the situation and will be in a better position then to make a statement.

### Silent on Conference

The commissioner also refused to give any information as to what took place at the lengthy conference between himself and the overseers of the public welfare. Those who attended the conference, beside the commissioner, were Simon E. Hecht, chairman; William H. Taylor, Mrs. Agnes H. Parker and Edward H. Wiley. At one point during the conference Deputy Superintendent Thomas F. Goode, in charge of the police investigation, entered the commissioner's office with a sheaf of papers, believed to be first hand reports of the fraud cases unearthed by police officers.

### Hint of Disagreement

Taylor, spokesman for the overseers, refused to make any statement at police headquarters, but was later quoted as saying that the conference was held to discuss the "mechanics" of the investigation. A hint of a rift between the overseers and the police was seen in a statement, attributed to Taylor, to the effect that all cases reported to the police as frauds are not so necessarily. Many persons who appear to be unworthy, Taylor said, are in reality deserving of assistance.

HERALD 8/17/32

## DANIEL J. HARKINS WELCOMED HOME

### Hamburg-American Line Manager Here Has Been Abroad

A welcome to Daniel J. Harkins, Boston manager of the Hamburg-American Line, who arrived yesterday with Mrs. Harkins and a son on the motorship Milwaukee, was extended by Robert Bradford of Gov. Ely's secretarial staff, representing the Governor. Traffic Commissioner Joseph A. Conroy, representing Mayor Curley and George P. Tilton, secretary of the port authority.

Mr. Harkins said he had recommended to the home office that Boston be given more frequent sailings and the matter was taken under consideration. Mr. Harkins and family spent a six-weeks vacation abroad.

The Milwaukee, from Hamburg, Boulogne and Galway, landed 120 passengers at Commonwealth pier, South Boston, proceeding to New York shortly after 10 A. M.

Other passengers were Miss Priscilla Manton Kramer of Roslindale, Radcliffe '31, awarded by the Carl Schurz Foundation a scholarship of two months of travel in Germany and a fellowship for study at the University of Berlin, 1931-1932, by the Institute of International Education. Miss Kramer, in addition, has been awarded the Otendorfer Memorial Fellowship and plans to return to Germany for further study. She was accompanied by her brother, Henry Kramer, Jr., who will return next month to resume study of the violin under Carl Klinger in Berlin.

George R. Farnum, Boston, honorary Turkish consul for New England, and Mrs. Farnum; Miss Theresa Kittredge of Clinton, who attended a summer school at Oxford University; Prof. George Scatchard of Technology and Mrs. Scatchard, also landed here.

TRAVELER

8/17/32

## CURLEY RETIRES THREE OFFICERS

Applications of three Boston police officials for retirement were approved by Mayor Curley today.

Deputy Supt. Ainslee C. Armstrong, of the bureau of records, member of the department since 1891, heads the list. He reached the retirement age of 65 on Aug. 5. He will draw a pension of \$2250 a year. The deputy was formerly chief inspector, succeeding the late John R. McGarr in 1926. He has been connected with headquarters since 1900.

Capt. John W. Pyne, attached to the office of Supt. Crowley, 37 years in the department, is retired on a pension of \$2000 a year. He reached the retirement age on Aug. 10.

Lieut. Philip E. O'Neil, of the West Roxbury division, is retired on a pension of \$1350 a year. He reached the retirement age on July 20. He joined the department in 1893.

RECORD

8/17/32



## JR RANS CRISP 8/17/32 Registered Voters Here Now 247,200

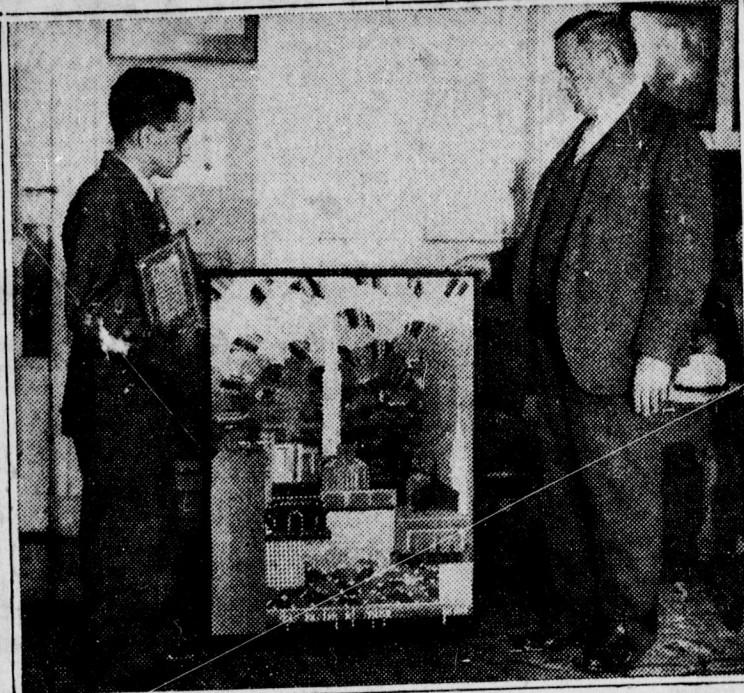
Mayor Curley announced today that records of the election department show that voters registered to date total 247,200, the registrations in the period from July 1 to Aug. 8 being 11,500. In making the announcement, the mayor stated that the total Boston registration in the last presidential election was 299,000, "so that it would be necessary for 50,000 additional women and men to register, provided the registration list is to be as large in 1932 as it was in 1928." As a Bay State leader in the presidential campaign of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, he is heading a concerted drive for a big registration here.

The mayor pointed out that the United States census figures for 1930 show that there are in Boston 199,781 men and 204,284 women who are entitled to vote and he asserted the city should have a voting strength of 350,000. Registration for the primaries is now going on in the Boston office from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.—Saturdays until 12 noon—and, beginning Aug. 25, and continuing through Aug. 31, the office will be open until 10 P. M.

### Only Woman

to complete the gruelling Boston Light swim Sunday, Eva Morrison, shown receiving the Mary Curley Cup from hands of Mayor Curley at City Hall yesterday.

# MAYOR CURLEY PRAISES ARTIST FOR SYMBOLICAL WORK, BOSTON



THE MAYOR SEES A NEW SORT OF BOSTON  
Mr Curley (right) and the artist, Garabed Der Hohannesian.

Among his many duties Mayor James M. Curley was called upon yesterday to pass judgment on a symbolical painting of Boston—done in the modernist style—by Garabed Der Hohannesian, a graduate of Massachusetts School of Art, where he majored in textile designing.

The central feature of the design is the Custom House tower with the State House in the background behind which is a prismatic sky. The Mayor congratulated the young man on the design and workmanship.

The young artist lives in Jamaica Plain.

## TRANSCRIPT

### Mayor Ends Last of Explosion Claims

Mayor Curley announced today the final adjustment by the city authorities of the remaining damages resulting from the dynamite explosion during street construction work in West Roxbury on June 30. Announcement of the adjustment came immediately following a conference among the claimants, Mayor Curley and Building Commissioner Edward W. Roemer, the total figures showing an outlay of \$12,000 by the city for damages.

Seven cases remained to be settled as the conference started. Six of them were immediately adjusted, the seventh, one for alleged damages to stained glass windows in a chapel three-quarters of a mile from the scene of the explosion going over pending a conference on an offer of \$100 made by the mayor as against the claim for \$300. The sum of \$4700 was represented in the closing adjustments. There were thirty-eight claims in all.

## Democrats to Hold Meeting Monday

Joseph A. Maynard, chairman of the Democratic State Committee, announced today that a special meeting of the 1500 Democratic candidates for State and County nominations and the chairmen and members of the Democratic ward and town committees, Democratic clubs will be held next Monday evening at 8 P. M. in Faneuil Hall.

Invitations to address the meeting have been extended to Governor Ely, United States Senators Marcus A. Coolidge and David I. Walsh, Congressmen William P. Connelly, John J. Douglass and John W. McCormack, Mayor Curley, former Mayor John F. Fitzgerald and Mary Ward, national committeewoman.

## STATE TAXES LISTED; HIGHER THAN IN 1931

Figures in Boston District Increased by "L" Levy

The amounts of money which cities and towns will be required to pay the State of Massachusetts this year as a State tax and for other assessments has been compiled by State Treas Charles F. Hurley.

The 1932 figures are higher than last year. This is due largely to the increase in the State tax for this year and, in the case of cities and towns in areas served by the Boston Elevated, to the assessments levied against them because of the deficit in the Elevated's operating expenses.

The list follows:

### METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

	1932	1931
Arlington	\$248,880	\$206,482
Belmont	189,789	133,461
Boston	8,890,630	7,068,611
Brookline	87,775	94,766
Cambridge	712,779	557,290
Canton	706,662	546,462
Chelsea	40,739	33,804
Cohasset	286,559	284,708
Dedham	15,642	10,410
Dover	82,192	66,921
Hingham	7,887	6,590
Everett	32,852	28,334
Hull	384,763	317,027
Lexington	34,236	27,690
Lynn	59,455	47,808
Malden	326,223	280,264
Marblehead	392,643	303,062
Medford	26,706	20,440
Melrose	461,282	306,429
Milton	153,888	137,520
Nahant	154,379	131,098
Needham	13,709	15,618
Newton	75,516	64,833
Newton	476,360	402,221
Newton	82,393	74,641
Quincy	57,445	542,461
Reading	30,639	24,336
Revere	197,295	193,873
Saugus	39,091	31,613
Somerville	759,250	581,637
Stoneham	65,810	55,799
Stoughton	26,647	24,076
Swampscott	84,486	74,432
Wakefield	66,587	59,475
Walpole	47,966	37,323
Waltham	177,140	159,050
Watertown	279,190	229,981
Wellesley	98,094	76,686
Weston	19,031	15,083
Westwood	15,957	8,503
Weymouth	146,998	145,270
Winchester	79,109	66,219
Winthrop	109,417	99,066
Woburn	69,377	60,940

### CITIES OUTSIDE DISTRICT

Attleboro	39,163	30,732
Beverly	67,573	51,411
Brockton	117,129	88,973
Chelmsford	66,799	64,091
Fall River	176,142	169,372
Fitchburg	81,548	55,372
Gardner	36,678	27,732
Gloucester	56,929	41,141
Haverhill	88,355	74,060
Holyoke	148,534	125,529
Lawrence	175,160	145,088
Leominster	36,946	33,167
Lowell	171,335	143,126
Marlboro	25,434	24,015
New Bedford	220,769	200,156
Newburyport	21,550	19,673
North Adams	37,198	35,843
Northampton	40,811	36,677
Peabody	43,954	30,113
Pittsfield	92,913	74,461
Salem	84,665	63,449
Springfield	408,229	317,751
Taunton	59,524	50,553
Westfield	30,525	27,858
Worcester	470,282	363,600

TRANS CRAT

8/18/32

## Tague Denies "Curley" G. O. P. Men Given Election Posts

Peter F. Tague, chairman of the Boston Election Commission, denied last night charges made to the Republican State committee that Mayor Curley was appointing "Curley" Republicans to positions as election officers.

Chairman Tague stated that, as a matter of fact, Boston has not appointed an election officer in any ward so far this year, and that consequently the charges are "untrue and unfounded."

## King and Whiteside in Reply to Curley

Tarrant P. King, latest object of attack by Mayor Curley in his controversy with the Boston Municipal Research Bureau over expenditures by the city of Boston, declared last night that he expects his properties "to be in business several years after Mr. Curley ceases to be mayor of Boston." Alexander Whiteside, who has been the recipient of several Curley thrusts during the controversy, also replied by stating that the mayor is "talking through his hat."

As a director of the research bureau, King was accused by Curley of having recently endeavored to obtain a 10 per cent reduction in assessment on the King Terminal properties, then expressing a willingness to take a 5 per cent cut and finally declaring a 3 per cent reduction would be acceptable.

After expressing expectation that the King Terminal would post-date the Curley regime for several years, King said: "Its only interest is in the development of industries now located there and in securing new manufacturing concerns—which is of course for the benefit of the city of Boston."

Whiteside, who was criticized by the mayor as counsel for property owners seeking tax abatements and reduced assessments, said:

"You can tell the mayor that I don't have to solicit business on tax abatement cases; they flock in of their own accord in droves. As usual he's talking through his hat. He's not telling the truth, and he'd better tend to city business and put the city's finances in order instead of abusing people. As long as he assumes the absolute policy of rejecting abatements and killing the market these cases are bound to develop in great numbers."

## Shields to Keep Job Bureau Open, Despite Lack of Funds

Director John J. Shields of the Boston Municipal Employment Bureau has announced that he and some of his fourteen assistants plan to keep the bureau open for a time despite the fact that available funds will run out tomorrow.

Following the action of the City Council in refusing to appropriate additional funds for the bureau at its meeting ten days ago, it had been expected that the department would be closed, but Director Shields intends to keep at his desk days, applying his time nights to his campaign for the Democratic nomination for sheriff of Suffolk County.

## Curley Again Moves to Save Job Board

## Mayor to Call Special Session of Council, Seeking Employ- ment Bureau Funds

Mayor Curley decided today to lock horns again with the City Council in an attempt to obtain funds with which to continue the City Employment Bureau. Turned down about ten days ago when the Council refused to appropriate funds for the bureau, the mayor today announced that he will call a special meeting of the Council for next Monday to receive his recommendation for special appropriations for the bureau, hospital and other facilities. In the meantime Director John J. Shields has announced that he and some of the fourteen others in the bureau have planned to keep it open after tomorrow when the last of the available funds for its operation will have been used.

The fight in the council against the bureau was led by Councilor John F. Dowd, militant Curley political enemy, and when he succeeded in blocking an appropriation of \$5000, the amount to which the mayor's original request for \$30,000 had been pared down, he had reason to believe that, with the council adjourning until Sept. 12, he had put the bureau out of business. This time, the mayor said, he would ask for \$20,000 with which to keep the organization going for the rest of the year.

The mayor said that he considered the employment department as necessary "to prevent in large measure unfair practices by private agencies," and in addition establishes contracts for jobs without expense to the employed or the employer. It was natural, he said, that in these times the percentage of placements of the jobless would be low.

"If," said the mayor, "we had reason to believe that the Republican depression would be permanent, we might have grounds for abandoning the bureau. I am quite certain, however, that we have passed the peak of the depression and started to emerge into prosperous conditions. Consequently there is a niche

## Reports 91.42 P. C. of 1931 Taxes Paid

City Collector William M. McMorrow reported to Mayor Curley today that of the 1931 tax warrant totaling to \$62,177,331.35, there has been collected \$56,842,741.23, which represents 91.42 per cent, leaving a balance of \$5,334,590.12, or 8.58 per cent outstanding to date. The percentage of collections is only slightly lower than that of a year ago.

The collector announced that this year he has granted a thirty-day extension over last year, which means that all of the 1931 real estate taxes must be paid in full prior to Aug. 31 to avoid advertising and sale. In view of the heavy drain on the city treasury because of the tremendous monthly outlay in welfare assistance, the mayor directed that all possible efforts be made to collect taxes.

Globe 8/18/32

## BOSTON TAXES' COLLECTION FAIR

## Only 3 Percent Under Last Year's Total

Mayor Curley today expressed his appreciation of the work being done by City Collector William H. McMorrow and assistants in collecting the 1931 tax warrant. Already the collection, \$56,842,741, represent 91.42 percent, which despite worse economic conditions, is only 3 percent under the collections at this time a year ago.

The tax warrant amounted to \$62,177,331, leaving \$5,334,590 uncollected. This year an extension of 30 days was given over last year. All real estate taxes must be paid in full prior to Aug. 31, in order to valid advertising and sale.

## WELFARE VISITORS TO BE QUESTIONED BY COUNCIL

Visitors attached to the Public Welfare Department will be individually questioned by the City Council Committee on Welfare Relief. The first meeting of the committee composed of Councillors McGrath, Burke, Ruby, Murray and Donovan will be held next Thursday.

It is expected that it will be necessary to hold eight or 10 meetings in order to question the force of about 50 men and women. The visitors will be asked about their methods of investigation and also regarding alleged cases of fraud unearthed by police officers.

HERALD

## CURLEY ISSUES PLEA FOR REGISTRATION

Points Out Voting Strength Far  
Below Level of 1928

Pointing out that the voting strength of the city of Boston has fallen far below the level of four years ago, Mayor Curley, in a public statement yesterday, urged citizens whose names are not on the voting lists to attend to the duty of registering in time to qualify for the September primaries.

The mayor's statement said:

One of the most important and absolute necessary obligations of every citizen, man or woman, is that he or she take part in the management of the affairs of his or her government. There is but one way in which you can do so, and that is by seeing to it that you are a registered voter of your city, and that your name is correctly on the voting list.

Many people are prone to criticise the management of the government and the representatives of the people, yet they cannot find time to get registered and vote. Boston should have a voting strength of more than 350,000, if those entitled to vote were to show an interest in their government.

Registration for the primaries will close on Aug. 31.

HERALD

8/18/32

# Whiteside Suggests Curley 'Attend to City Business'

Declares Mayor "As Usual Is Talking Through His Hat"—Tarrant King Also Replies to Attack on Bureau

That Mayor Curley had "better tend to city business and put the city finances in order instead of abusing people," was the comment of Alexander Whiteside yesterday in response to a further attack by the mayor on the Boston municipal research bureau and on him as counsel for property owners seeking tax abatements and reduced assessments.

Whiteside said that, "as usual, the mayor is talking through his hat."

Tarrant P. King, one of the directors of the bureau, who was singled out by the mayor for particular criticism, also made a brief reply, asserting that the terminal enterprise bearing his name—referred to in Mayor Curley's statement as a property on which valuations had been lowered—would "be in business for

several years after Mr. Curley ceases to be mayor of Boston."

Mayor Curley in his statement denied that the assessed valuation of properties are grossly excessive and that the city's whole assessment system rests on a "rotten" foundation, as claimed by the bureau. In its contention that property valuations fixed by the assessors are excessive in numerous cases, the bureau, the mayor declared, has resorted to the unfair and unsound procedure of attempting to determine permanent values at a time when the real estate market is emerging from a temporary state of demoralization.

#### MAYOR'S STATEMENT

The mayor said in his statement:

"The Boston municipal research

TRAVELER

8/18/32

## A Job for the League?

ALTHOUGH we are not informed if Mayor Curley and Mr. Whiteside are members of the League of Nations, or if they ever subscribed to a general protocol designed to avert gory strife, we feel that overt acts are in the offing, if the exchange of sharp diplomatic notes is a criterion. We trust there will be no severance of diplomatic relations. The letters, however, reveal a degree of passion which should be far from the contemplation of scholarly gentlemen, even if their missives are a bit prolix.

In Genesis, we have the story of the creation abundantly told in chaste composition; there is absence of redundancy, ambiguity, tautology or other offences to the purist. Of course His Honor and the eminent gentleman representing allegedly oppressed vested interests may be indulging in a literary contest. If this is so, may we suggest that Traffic Commissioner Conry be asked to serve as arbiter to whom specimens of cultural literature may be submitted for an appropriate trophy?

The exchange of epistles as printed has been diverting, but where space is valuable it might be well to adopt the foregoing suggestion in the interest of economy and of sweet cherubic peace.

bureau in their latest abusive and untruthful effusion, endeavor to justify their contention that the time to establish values upon properties is when the market is at the lowest ebb and in the throes of an unprecedented industrial depression. They would have the public believe that the situation with reference to assessed values is peculiar to Boston alone.

"The fact is that vacant properties in every section of every important city in America may be found today and that the leases can be negotiated at pretty much whatever price the applicant sees fit to tender. In other words, the realty market throughout the United States is slowly emerging from the same character of complete demoralization as has been in evidence in the commodity and in the stock market. Surely no intelligent individual would attempt to justify the establishment of permanent prices upon commodities in a depression.

"The selfish group of raiders of assessed valuations in Boston headed by Alexander Whiteside may protest until the end of time that they are actuated by a spirit of altruism and animated solely by the desire to conserve the standing of the city, but just so long as Mr. Whiteside and his group continue as counsel for a large proportion of the cases pending before the assessors and the tax appeal board and involving many millions of dollars and just so long as Mr. Whiteside continues to invite business upon mortgages held by the Atlantic National Bank or other interests, just so long will it be unnecessary for me or any other individual to present evidence for the purpose of proving his motives.

"The prima facie evidence in the case is presented by Mr. Whiteside. Among the directors of the Boston municipal research bureau, I note the name of Tarrant P. King and I am surprised that one who presumably has some sense of honor, should permit a statement to be issued, upon which his name appears as a signer, setting forth that the board of assessors are not permitted to conscientiously discharge the duties for which they are appointed.

"Mr. King within the last week, waited upon me to secure a reduction in the properties controlled by him and known as the King Terminal. I immediately sent for the board of assessors, requesting them to sit down with Mr. King to go over the case as presented by him and to determine the same upon its merits.

"If my memory serves me right, Mr. King requested a 10 per cent. reduction. I asked the assessors if they considered he was entitled to it and they stated, in their opinion, he was not, as he had a reduction in 1929, 1930 and 1931. Mr. King then said he would be satisfied with 5 per cent. and when the assessors informed him that his property was on a paying basis and that he was not entitled to any, he was even willing to accept a 3 per cent. reduction.

#### WHITESIDE RELOTS

When the mayor's statement was brought to his attention, Whiteside declared, "You can tell the mayor that I don't have to solicit business on tax abatement cases; they flock in of their own accord in droves. As usual he's talking through his hat. He's not telling the truth, and he'd better tend to city business and put the city's finances in order instead of abusing people. As long as he assumes the absolute policy of rejecting abatements and killing the market these cases are bound to develop in great numbers."

Tarrant King said:

"The King Terminal expects to be in business for several years after Mr. Curley ceases to be mayor of Boston. Its only interest is in the development of industries now located there and in securing new manufacturing concerns—which is of course for the benefit of the city of Boston."

Globe 8/18/32

# BUREAU AT WORK ON WELFARE CASES

## Police Complete Investigation on Some Of First 1500

Deputy Supt Thomas F. Goode's special bureau of investigation was at work today on the first of the welfare cases which have come back to the bureau from the stations after preliminary investigation.

Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the Public Welfare Board, said that the department will turn over another 1000 cases for investigation as soon as the deputy notifies him that he is ready for more.

Some of the stations have already completed the investigation of their share of the 1500 cases first turned over to the bureau.

Deputy Goode said this morning that it is too early for any statement as to the percentage of fraudulent cases among those now in his hands. The stations, he explained, have done the ground work. Apparently fraudulent cases discovered in this preliminary investigation will now be checked over by the men specially assigned to the new bureau, and, where the evidence warrants it, prepared for trial.

It will be some time before any cases are ready for trial, he said, since before any of the persons alleged to be receiving aid fraudulently are prosecuted a decision must be reached as to the general method of handling them.

The deputy declined to go into details, saying that it is too early, but it is obvious that it may be possible to link some of the cases together, perhaps under a general charge of conspiracy to defraud the city.

The case of a man still on the Welfare Department list who is said to have left Boston six months ago was one of those turned into the new bureau yesterday. When the officer investigating went to the address given he was told the man had moved to a town 15 miles away last March.

Another curious case was that of a man and wife whose address, as turned over to the police, was that of an office building. Investigation showed that some time before the couple had lived at a house of the same number in a nearby court which bore the name of the street.

This seemed clearly an address mix-up, but the couple are still to be found, as the landlady of the house in the court told the officer that she had evicted them after a month's residence, and that she had no idea where they have gone.

The welfare bureau at Police Headquarters today ordered 20,000 police record slips printed for use in the bureau, in checking up police records of persons who are receiving aid and apply for it. The slips when filled out will contain the name of the person, date of arrest, name of the police officer, place where the arrest was made, the offense, the court disposition of the case and any alias, if any, of the person and also the numbers of that person's fingerprints and photograph in the rogues' gallery.

Herald 8/18/32  
**CHARGES UNTRUE,  
TAGUE ANSWERS**

## No Precinct Officers Appointed Yet, He Says

Peter F. Tague, chairman of the Boston election commissioners, yesterday characterized as utterly untrue and baseless the complaints made to the Republican State Committee that bogus Republicans who are actually Democrats are being given appointments in Boston as precinct officers to serve at the polls in the primaries. The complainants blamed Mayor Curley for the alleged irregularities:

Chairman Tague said:

The attention of this board has been called to an item which appeared in the daily newspapers of this date, which states that a charge of unfairness in the appointment of election officers was made at a meeting of the Republican City Committee on Tuesday, Aug. 16.

In this newspaper article the statement was made that only "Curley" Republicans, and Democrats who had suddenly switched their political allegiance to the Republican party, are being given the posts which should go to bona fide Republicans.

As chairman of the election commission, I desire to state that such accusations are not only untrue but unfounded, inasmuch as, up to the present writing, there has not been an appointment of a single precinct officer made in any ward of the city of Boston this year.

This board will receive, from the several chairmen of the various Democratic and Republican ward committees, any suggestions or recommendations for the filling of vacancies of election officers, as has been our practice in past years. Under the law the jobs must be distributed equally among Republicans and Democrats. In each of the Boston polling places six precinct officers are provided for—a warden, a clerk and four inspectors.

## GREAT NUMBER OF AID FRAUDS

### Police End Investigation of First 1500 Cases

### Mayor Says No Official Will Ask Clemency for Offender

Boston police have completed investigation of about 1500 of the 20,000 city welfare cases—the first allotment sent to them by the Welfare Board—and last night were awaiting arrival of a second allotment.

Yesterday's most important development in the investigation of fraud in city welfare, came from Mayor Curley who publicly announced that no clemency would be asked or sought by any city official for persons guilty of fraud in accepting aid.

"In those cases which have been recently tried in court," he said, "jail sentences have been pronounced and, since persons with fairly large bank accounts have been taking advantage not only of the city but of unfortunate and worthy needy families, it will be necessary to adhere to the rule adopted at the outset that no clemency will be sought in behalf of any individual who is taking such advantage, either by myself or any other municipal official."

Mayor Curley pointed out that the City of Boston is fortunate, in comparison with other cities, because it is able to keep up its welfare aid, whereas other cities have been forced to abandon the work, due to lack of funds.

The police investigations of the first few cases sent by the Welfare Board have revealed an amazing number of fraudulent cases. Official figures on the number is lacking. Commissioner Hultman has said that, since only 1500 of the 20,000 cases have been sent to police, he does not consider it fair to estimate at this time.

Every police division in the city reported yesterday that it had ended its labors on this first batch of cases. It was learned that 50 cases of fraud in receiving the aid were reported in Charlestown. All such cases are sent from the stationhouse to the new bureau for such matters at Headquarters. Court action will result from the final investigations to be made by members of this bureau, under direction of Deputy Supt Thomas F. Goode.

Police have been flooded with anonymous letters offering proof of fraud cases. These letters are being turned over to the divisions for investigation and a report sent to the new bureau at Headquarters.

An Italian resident of the North End visited Police Headquarters, yesterday, and reported his aid had been reduced from \$14 to \$10. He said he had to support a sick wife, sick baby, and two small sons, on that amount; that he couldn't do it, and he wanted police to have his amount raised. The matter was referred to the Welfare Board.

Post

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HERALD

# MAYOR NOT TRUTHFUL, HE CLAIMS

Talking Through Hat,  
Is Whiteside's  
Opinion

Contending that "Mayor Curley was talking through his hat, and not telling the truth at that," former Corporation Counsel Alexander Whiteside last night denied mayoral charges that he was soliciting wealthy clients to appear before the State Board of Tax Appeal for abatements of Boston taxes.

## FLOCK IN LIKE SHEEP

"I don't have to solicit cases of property owners seeking relief; they flock in like sheep," stated Attorney Whiteside. "As long as the Mayor assumes his absurd policy of killing the real estate market by refusing to reduce valuations, the cases will continue to flock in. He had better tend to his administration and put the city finances in order instead of abusing people," said the Mayor's critic.

Attorney Whiteside and Tarrant P. King of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau were singled out as targets yesterday by the Mayor in replying to the bureau's complaint that properties in the downtown city were selling for half their assessed valuation and that two-thirds of the work of the State Board of Tax Appeal was taken up by Boston petitions for abatements.

## Queries King's Motive

Besides criticising Attorney Whiteside soliciting these cases to go before the State Board, the Mayor questioned Mr. King's motive in being a party to the attack upon the city's valuations.

He alleged that only last week Mr. King had sought a 10 per cent reduction on his property valuation, then volunteered to take five per cent, and finally came down to a three per cent reduction, but the assessors refused to give him any cut because his King terminal was on a paying basis. Furthermore, the Mayor stated that Mr. King obtained reductions in 1929, 1930 and 1931.

Mr. King, commenting on the Mayor's attack, stated "The King Terminal expects to be in business for several years after Mr. Curley ceases to be Mayor of Boston."

## Benefit to City

"Its only interest is in the development of the industries now located there and in securing new manufacturing concerns, which is, of course, for

the benefit of the city or Boston."

Replying to the bureau's charge that the city's expenditures were based on "a rotten foundation" of tax valuations, the Mayor stated that his past three years at City Hall valuations had been reduced \$150,000,000. He warned that it would be unsound to cut them down to depression values at this time, as no one would attempt to establish the value of securities upon the present market prices.

GLOBE 8/18/32

# CURLEY APPEALS FOR REGISTERING

Three Days Left—City Is  
50,000 Short of 1928

Mayor Figures 105,000 Have  
Never Cast a Ballot

Mayor Curley pointed out yesterday that there are almost 40,000 men and more than 65,000 women in the city of Boston who have never availed themselves of their right to vote. They, as well as those who wish to change their party enrollment, have only until Saturday to register.

Boston's registration of voters to date is 247,000, of which number 11,500 have been enrolled between July 1 and Aug 1. The Boston voting list so far is 50,000 short of the registration of the last Presidential election.

Mayor Curley, who is credited with having added 30,000 names to the voting list in the Al Smith campaign four years ago, said yesterday:

"To those persons who have been protesting against crime waves and the inability to get good liquor at a reasonable price, this information may be of value, for neither protest nor thirst will mean anything unless their names are upon the registered list.

"Many people are prone to criticise the management of the Government and the representatives of the people, yet they cannot find time to get registered and vote. Boston should have a voting strength of more than 350,000 if those entitled to vote would show an interest in their government. Too many people belittle this important duty until they need assistance, which often they cannot receive because of their own neglect. For that reason we are calling to the attention of the people the importance, especially this year, of getting on the registered voting list. Do not neglect to find out if you are a registered voter."

"This year you are called upon to elect the President and Vice President, Congressmen, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and all State officers, clerk of court and sheriff. Many important questions are waiting for your consideration and your decision. Among them the question of the repeal of the 18th Amendment. Your votes in the selection of your Representatives will be the important factor in the deciding of this question. You cannot help to decide unless you are a voter."

# FIND LANDLORD ON RELIEF ROLL

Cambridge Authorities Charge Negro Couple with Larceny of \$1248

## BOSTON POLICE COMPLETE PROBE

While Boston police had completed investigation of the first group of welfare cases given them for examination last night, Cambridge officials served summonses for court appearances tomorrow on a Negro couple for larceny of \$1248 in relief funds, and disclosed that quiet inquiry in the last two months had eliminated 400 unworthy persons from the rolls and reduced welfare expenditures by \$9000 a week.

Meanwhile, in Waltham, Mayor Patrick J. Duane announced that he personally will address the recipients of relief in that city on the necessity of being honest in their applications for aid. In announcing his plan, he declared that 15 per cent. of those now receiving welfare funds are getting more money than they should, and that 5 per cent. should receive none at all.

## NO CLEMENCY BY CURLEY

Other developments yesterday in the "relief racket" included a statement by Mayor Curley that persons found guilty of fraudulently obtaining aid will receive no clemency from himself or from any other municipal official. In Haverhill police completed their investigation of the welfare lists, but no cases of outright fraud had been uncovered. Since the investigation began, however, 50 names have been removed from the city lists.

What was called one of the most flagrant cases of fraud in Cambridge was disclosed with the serving of summonses for larceny on John B. Marshall, 39, and his wife, Ruth Marshall, 37. Police found that the couple, who are Negroes, have \$1000 in the bank, own their own home at 194 Franklin street, receive rents from tenants in the building, and as well own another house in the rear of that address, from which they also are receiving rents. They are charged with the larceny of \$1248 from the city.

During the day the Cambridge welfare department received a check for \$250 from a woman who has been receiving aid for several months. The money she said was in return for the fund she has been given and was paid from a \$1000 insurance policy she received at the death of her husband.

Police also reported they have learned that a woman who has been given \$17 weekly by the city lives with two

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## GOO-GOOS AGAIN OPPOSE MAYOR

### Calling Names, Statement on Assessments Says

The Good Government Association last night issued a statement supporting the Boston Municipal Research Bureau and Representative John V. Mahoney of Dorchester in their controversy with Mayor Curley regarding the city administration's policy in maintaining tax valuations on real estate.

In the statement, which was signed by Secretary Laurence O. Pratt of the G. G. A., the Mayor was accused of "calling names" instead of answering charges preferred by his critics.

Relying to the statement of the Good Government Association, Mayor Curley last night stated: "This is indeed the age of miracles. The dead Goo-Goos are returned to life and, although somewhat putrid, nevertheless, they are with us."

## JOB BUREAU IS STILL OPEN

### Director and 15 Workers Volunteer Services

Boston's Municipal Employment Bureau will remain open for business as usual despite the fact that its funds gave out last night, following the refusal of the City Council to step into the breach with operating expenses for the remainder of the year.

When 5 o'clock tolled at the bureau's headquarters in the reconditioned fire station at 25 Church street, the 15 staff workers headed by Director John J. Shields voted to volunteer the services to the city without the \$500 weekly payroll until such time as the City Council reconsidered its action.

## BID APPROVED FOR PLAYGROUND

Work on a new playground near Stimson street and the Washington street boulevard, Germantown, West Roxbury, will begin next Monday morning, following Mayor Curley's approval today of the contract awarded by Park Commissioner William P. Long to A. G. Tomassell & Sons, second lowest bidders. The company bid \$12,132 for filling in land and loaming. The money will come from a total of \$50,000 appropriated by the city council for the playground. The land cost \$21,000.

HERALD 8/19/32

## MOVES TO SAVE CITY JOBS BUREAU

### Mayor Calls Special Session Of Council—Also to Ask For Hospital Loans

Mayor Curley yesterday called a special meeting of the city council for Monday afternoon, chiefly to act on various loans for hospital and other purposes. Proceeds of the hospital loans would be used to make possible the utilization within a few months of new units under construction at Boston City Hospital.

The mayor also will ask the council to appropriate \$20,000 for the municipal employment bureau as operating expenses for the balance of the year. At its meeting 10 days ago the council refused to appropriate \$30,000 for the bureau asked by the mayor. Available funds will run out today, but the bureau is to remain open for a few days at least, in the expectation that funds for its continuance will be forthcoming. Although due to go without pay, John J. Shields, director, and his staff have agreed to remain on the job and continue to serve employers and job-seekers for the time being.

Mayor Curley said yesterday he felt the bureau, the services of which are offered free to both the employer and the worker, has a place of distinct value in the industrial life of the city and should not be allowed to pass out of existence, particularly at the present time.

## TAX RATE TO BE SET BY SEPT. 1

Boston's 1932 tax rate will be announced before Sept. 1, Mayor Curley said today.

The mayor did not indicate what the new figure would be but it has been understood in City Hall there will be an increase of approximately \$4, making the new rate \$35.50 or thereabouts, as exclusively forecast in the Boston Evening American several weeks ago.

Post 8/19/32

### MORE AND MORE AMAZING

What seems the most remarkable development of all the revelations concerning the Welfare Relief investigators is the statement of Corporation Counsel Silverman that his department alone has collected between \$20,000 and \$25,000 in cash by law suits against persons who collected welfare aid when they were not entitled to it.

This seems to show that the frauds are exceedingly widespread and also that the fakers hasten to pay up when the law gets after them.

But the amount of money collected in this fashion by the Corporation Counsel's office is startling, considering the fact that it was done in so short a period. Evidently the city aid list just swarms with fakers.

It is hard to believe that literally thousands of people, judging from all the facts that have come to light in the past few days, are so devoid of all decency and humanity as to steal from the city money reserved for those in real distress. Yet it appears this atrocious graft is widespread.

With all due regard for the very difficult position in which the Board of Public Welfare is placed and its lack of sufficient trained workers it does seem as though a great deal of the investigating has been carelessly done.

Yet, we have the example of the smaller cities where the obtaining of the facts regarding the need of applicants for aid should be easy as compared to Boston and we find they suffer from the same bare-faced fakery.

We should be careful, however, not to let this exposure of the unworthy blind us to the need of many thousands of decent and honest people who are dependent solely on the allowance from the city. They should not suffer for the sins of others.

TRANSCRIPT

8/19/32

## Boston Council Confused Over Welfare Fraud

**Brackman to Demand Inquiry,  
While Certain Members Fear  
Charge of "Whitewash"**

Members of the Boston City Council are going through a period of mental confusion with relation to the disclosures of fraud in the distribution of public welfare assistance, some of the council's opposing any investigation at their hands at this time, while others are equally inconsistent that they should delve thoroughly and fearlessly into the subject at once. This condition developed today when Councilor David M. Brackman of Roxbury forcefully went on record for the start next week of a searching examination of visitors in the public welfare department to obtain first hand the history of cases of fraud reported by the police in the districts where these visitors pass in applications for welfare aid.

Brackman made his position known after announcement by Councilor Joseph McGrath, chairman of the council's Committee on Public Welfare, that the start of a series of at least eight hearings in the council chamber, set for next Thursday afternoon had been postponed.

Brackman stated that, at the special meeting of the council called for next Monday by Mayor Curley for other purposes, he will demand that the hearings be started.

"Failure," said Brackman, "to go ahead with the hearings will leave the impression in the mind of the public that the councilors were of the opinion that any disclosures which might come about as a result of the investigation might reflect upon them directly. Accordingly I shall demand on Monday that the investigation by the Public Welfare Committee be held as originally stated."

It has been apparent for several days that many members of the Council are extremely sensitive in reaction to unofficial police reports that in some of the cases of alleged fraud there have been written records of recommendations from certain of the City Council members that the applicants for assistance be recognized as worthy of that aid.

As a sequel to these reports certain of the councilors have been quick to announce that, in each of the cases which they have recommended for assistance they have done so only after a personal investigation.

The unexpected announcement that the meeting scheduled for next Thursday as the first in a series during which it was planned to question closely the nearly fifty visitors in the public welfare department had been postponed is the topic of much speculation in City Hall. Those members of the Council who think their body as such should not undertake its own investigation until the police have completed their inquiry, at the request of Mayor Curley, into the merits of the 20,000-odd cases receiving monetary assistance, are concerned over the interpretation the public might make of such an inquiry timed with the police disclosures. They reason that there is a chance that the councilors may be accused of attempting a "whitewash" of certain members of the Council whom the police have involved in the alleged unworthy cases.

Those advocating a council inquiry on the other hand, declare that, by blocking the inquiry at this time the Council would be laying itself open to possible criticism that certain of the members fear uncovering by their own investigation proceedings which the police already have unofficially reported.

That is the situation as it promises to confront the Council when it comes into session on the mayor's call next Monday instead of Sept. 12, to which time adjournment was taken two weeks ago.

In the meantime the police investigation is proceeding and the city law department also is continuing its work started two months ago of endeavoring to uncover by trustee process any cases where recipients of aid have bank accounts or other collateral placing them outside the realm of welfare aid.

## G. G. A. Scores Mayor for "Calling Names"

The Good Government Association today took up the cudgels in support of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau in its controversy with Mayor Curley over City of Boston expenditures and assessed values. In a statement over the signature of Secretary Laurence O. Pratt, the association declares that "to call names neither helps the city nor answers the charges." The association says that the mayor should meet the issue squarely, or "set about remedying conditions." The text of the statement follows:

"The continuous newspaper controversy now going on between the Boston Municipal Research Bureau and the mayor is interesting both because of what is said and what is not said. The assertions of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau and Representative John V. Mahoney that the city's assessed values rest upon a shaky foundation merit more reply than personal abuse of the individuals making the assertions. "No responsive answer to the attacks has been made by the mayor. The time-worn method of attacking his attackers or irrelevant matters is in itself a confession of weakness on the mayor's part.

"The Boston Municipal Research Bureau is well qualified to discuss the merits of the controversy and this association, therefore, expresses no opinion at this time on that point. We do desire to call the attention of the citizens to the fact that the mayor ought either to meet the issue squarely, or, if he cannot do so, set about remedying conditions. To call

AMERICAN 8/19/32

## CURLEY HONORS ITALIAN TEAM

New York, Aug. 19 (INS) — Members of the Italian Olympic team will be entertained tonight on the motorship *Saturna*, which will take the athletes back to Italy tomorrow. Stopping in Boston they will attend a reception and receive a victory cup from Mayor Curley.

## \$12,017 BLAST CLAIMS PAID

Claims totalling \$12,017 were awarded by city officials today to owners of property in the vicinity of Edgemere rd., West Roxbury, whose homes were damaged recently by an accidental explosion of dynamite stored nearby by a contractor working on a municipal project.

Damages awarded cover 38 of the 39 structures affected by the blast. In the lone instance where settlement was not made Mayor Curley and Building Commissioner Edward W. Roemer advised petitioners to carry their claim to the courts when they sought redress of \$300 on the grounds that a cemetery chapel, situated nearly a mile from the scene, was weakened on its foundations and that stained glass windows were broken.

Originally it was estimated by property owners that \$50,000 would be required to finance cost of reconstructing their homes. When Mayor Curley threatened to abandon efforts to help them, they cut their figure to \$18,000. The final cost of the work is even lower than estimates of the building department.

## Mayor Lets Contract for New Playground

A contract for filling, loaming and grading the site of the Germantown playground in West Roxbury was awarded to A. G. Tomassello by Mayor Curley for playground purposes in that section. The land cost \$21,000. Work will begin on Monday.

TRAVELER

8/19/32

HERALD 8/19/32

# CITY COUNCIL PROBE OF AID IS ABANDONED

## McGrath Stirs Storm of Dissension by Announcement

The city council was torn with dissension today as statements and counter statements met the announcement that the proposed investigation of fraud in public aid by the council committee on public welfare had been definitely set aside.

### OPPOSE MCGRATH'S STAND

City Councilman Joseph McGrath of Dorchester, chairman of the public welfare committee, stood firm in his decision not to proceed with open questioning of visitors for the public welfare department. Other members of the council rose up in protest.

David M. Brackman of Roxbury led the cohorts of the city councilmen, demanding the public welfare committee press an investigation. The committee members are McGrath, Thomas M. Burke, Israel Ruby, Peter A. Murray and George P. Donovan.

After declaring that the committee would start a series of public hearings next Thursday afternoon, before which the welfare department visitors would be questioned as to their methods in investigating cases, McGrath announced the hearings had been called off.

This was done, he said, because an independent inquiry by the city council might hinder the work by the new police bureau of investigation in revealing widespread fraud.

Brackman demanded the council committee proceed with its original plans. He declared that to fail to go ahead with the hearings would leave the impression with the public that any disclosures might reflect directly on the council members.

### FEARS "WHITEWASH"

McGrath then reiterated his original statement that the hearings were called off. In view of the fact that members of the council had been criticized for being possibly connected with the fraud, he said that such meetings might seem an attempt to whitewash the city council.

Brackman countered with the assertion that at the regular meeting of the city council next Monday he would demand the council committee hold its investigation.

Meanwhile Hale Power, assistant corporation counsel, announced that, independent of other investigations, the public welfare department would press court proceedings against several fraudulent receivers of public aid.

"As a result of investigation of cases forwarded to this office for prosecution by the department of public welfare," he said, "attachments have been made upon the several banks by trustee process. I shall on Monday, Aug. 22, apply

for six warrants in the warrant session of the central municipal court.

### NOTIFIES DEFENDANTS

"I am notifying the several defendants to appear in court and show cause, if any, why warrants should not be issued. I have notified the department of public welfare to be present with the records in the several cases, and I shall summon the records of the several banks.

"These warrants are being obtained as in the past, and in the regular course of business, and are founded solely upon information furnished by the department of public welfare.

"This department for months has been actively engaged in investigating and prosecuting recipients of aid who have fraudulently obtained relief. We have secured the return of substantial sums of money and many convictions.

"We propose to continue this work with the co-operation of all parties and agencies."

# CITY WILL PAY BLAST DAMAGE

## Church, However, Refuses Offer for Explosion in West Roxbury

Thirty-eight of 39 claimants for damages to property, the result of an explosion on Edgemere road, West Roxbury, on June 30, will be paid a total of \$12,017 by the city of Boston. One claimant, a church, located three-quarters of a mile from the scene, refuses to accept the sum offered by the city and the case may go to court.

The city is not legally bound to pay the damages. The contractor, however, who was doing the work on the sewer pipes when the explosion occurred was bonded only to the extent of \$1000.

Agreements were reached in 32 cases by conferences between Building Commissioner Edward W. Roemer and the property owners. The remaining seven claimants called on Mayor Curley today with the result that satisfactory agreement was reached in all but one case, that of the church. Church officials claim damages to stained glass windows which were shattered.

Houses for which damages are being paid are located on Hinsdale road, Washington street, Cheriton and Edgemere roads.

# G. G. A. TAKES HAND IN CIVIC CONFLICT

## Thinks Mayor Should Reply To Charges Made

The Good Government Association, in a formal statement yesterday, commented briefly on the current controversy between Mayor Curley and the Boston Municipal Research Bureau over the city's operating costs and tax assessment policies.

The statement follows:

The continuous newspaper controversy now going on between the Boston Municipal Research Bureau and the mayor is interesting both because of what is said and what is not said. The assertions of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau and Representative John V. Mahoney that the city's assessed values rest upon a shaky foundation merit more reply than personal abuse of the individuals making the assertions.

No responsive answer to the attacks has been made by the Mayor. The time-worn method of attacking his attackers on irrelevant matters is in itself a confession of weakness on the mayor's part.

The Boston Municipal Research Bureau is well qualified to discuss the merits of the controversy and this association, therefore, expresses no opinion at this time on that point. We do desire to call the attention of the citizens to the fact that the Mayor ought either to meet the issue squarely, or, if he cannot do so, set about remedying conditions. To call names neither helps the city nor answers the charges.

# Curley Knows No One Saved by Prohibition

Mayor Curley does not know of a single drunkard who has been saved as a result of prohibition.

The committee on prohibition research, which has toured 35 states searching for a single drunk who has reformed because of the prohibition law, called on the mayor today to ask whether he ever came in contact with a single case. But his honor knew of no such case.

## No Time for Fanciful Finance

Almost any day now there will come the announcement of Boston's tax-rate for the new year. Controversial issue aside, Mayor Curley has a difficult problem on his hands in this regard, and no one can doubt that the responsibility of decision is a weight that bears heavily upon him. Naturally he desires to keep the tax-rate down. In this connection the Boston Real Estate Exchange Bulletin gives timely emphasis, however, to facts which, though self-evident, are too often forgotten.

After all, the question "whether the tax-rate is more or less is only part of the story," says the new president of the exchange, Edwin D. Brooks. "The tax burden which a property bears and which eventually the public pays is the assessment multiplied by the tax-rate. The tax-rate is the part of the tax which receives publicity and therefore city officials are prone to endeavor to hold the tax-rate as low as possible, the temptation being to increase income by raising assessed valuations rather than by increasing the tax-rate. It is perhaps due to some extent to this inclination on the part of our city officials in previous years that assessments have been allowed to overtop values, a condition which has gone from bad to worse recently in some districts because of a shrinkage in market value due to changes in conditions."

This argument rests, of course, on elementary principles, but precisely on what account is it important. The whole question, "What are fair and reasonable assessed valuations for property in various sections of Boston?" is basic to the determination of sound policy in every phase of municipal finance in these troublous times. For example, if it were really true that Boston's present total valuation of nearly \$2,000,000,000 represented a firm and universally fair basis which could be counted on to continue intact throughout the next five years, then the city government might indeed be justified in adopting a rather easy outlook toward the future. The argument in favor of borrowing money now against resources of the next three or four years—as in the case of the mayor's proposal to tap the highway fund for several years in advance—would gain force. On the other hand, if Boston's whole basis of assessed valuations is in a shaky condition, and almost certain to be forced down in the early future to a level perhaps as low as \$1,500,000,000, then the compulsions of prudence and of rigid economy become intensely strong. If the "capital account" is declining, then it is dangerous indeed to borrow against future resources to pay current

expenses.

That explains why the Municipal Research Bureau has been given so much attention of late to the whole question of assessed valuations. This matter is not one of concern merely to individual property-owners. It constitutes the ultimate be-all and end-all of the city's true financial position. Personal criticism directed against individual citizens, who have recently been exerting their lawful rights to seek fair abatements from the State Board of Tax Appeal, cannot affect the basic economics of the matter by one iota. The responsibility rests squarely with the city government to accomplish economies in line with the facts, and to avoid fanciful finance resting upon illusory premises.

## Rugo Co. Gets Contract for Tunnel Ventilating Plant

Mayor Curley, upon recommendation of the transit commission, has awarded to the Rugo Construction Company the contract for erection of a ventilating plant for the new vehicular tunnel under the harbor extending from Boston proper to East Boston. The Rugo bid, the lowest of ten submitted, was \$107,000.

The structure, to be erected over the tunnel at Decatur and Maverick streets, East Boston, will be of brick and extend five stories above the street level and to an equal depth below.

As the second lowest bidder, the A. G. Tomasello & Sons Company got the job of grading and loaning a new playground at Stimson street, near Washington street in the Germantown section of West Roxbury at a cost of \$12,133. The lowest bidder offered to do the work for \$245 less, but the park department protested that he had no previous experience with the park system construction work.

## City Sues to Recover Welfare Aid

### Brings Civil Actions Against Recipients Alleged to Have Bank Accounts

Civil suits were entered in the Municipal Civil Court of Boston today for the recovery of money obtained from the Public Welfare department in cases in which recipients are alleged to have money in the banks. The suits were filed by Assistant Corporation Counsel Hale Power of the city law department, acting for the Welfare Department. The bank accounts in each case have been attached. The cases are as follows:

Jacob and Jennie Glickman who are alleged to have collected \$219 in assistance from the city. It is claimed that Jennie Glickman has a total balance of

\$1212 in the Grove Hall and Eliot Savings banks.

Edward and Ada Dietrich, alleged to have collected \$301. It is declared by the welfare agents that Ada's mother and Ada had a joint account in the Eliot Savings Bank. The investigators report that the mother in April, 1931, withdrew \$4910 and bought a house with it and later drew out the balance of \$251 to pay taxes to the city. According to the investigation report, the mother says that her daughter had been living with her and not with the husband, Edward Dietrich. The welfare department investigator claims that the \$301 was collected for maintenance of the husband also.

Abraham and Rose Santaug, 17 Crescent street, and the Grove Hall Savings Bank as trustee; from Feb. 10 to May 4, \$169; attachment for \$300.

Mary Harrington, 350 Shawmut avenue, and the Boston Five Cents Savings Bank as trustee; from Jan. 25, 1931, to February, 1932; amount, \$6183; attachment, \$300.

Fred Maurand, 1 Wyman place, and the Wildey Savings Bank as trustee; Nov. 1931, to Jan. 19, 1932; amount, \$70; attachment for \$110.

This action by the law department is an outgrowth of investigations it has been carrying on for several weeks at the request of the welfare department and is independent of the inquiry being conducted at the request of Mayor Curley.

## Bus Diogenes Will Tour All Maine In Quest of Law-Reformed Drunkard

Maine, the original prohibition state, will be the next stop on the tour of the bus Diogenes whose crew of six is searching for a "law-reformed" drunkard, it was announced yesterday.

The bus will visit Portland, Bangor, Lewiston and Augusta as a result of the failure of its crew yesterday to find a pre-prohibition Boston drunkard who had reformed because of the 18th amendment.

The group was received by Mayor Curley at noon. The mayor told the members that he knew of no law-reformed drunkards. Supt. Michael H. Crowley of the Boston police said he couldn't honestly say he knew of a case of a hard-drinking man who had reformed because of the prohibition law.

L. Good, acting manager of the Salvation Army social center, said he knew tomorrow for Mains.

of drunkards reforming through persuasion or religion, but none who had reformed because of the law itself.

The group also visited the Rev. Dr. Robert Watson, secretary of the Lord's Day League; the Rev. Dr. A. Z. Conrad, pastor of Park street church, and Arthur L. Davis, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon league.

Dr. Conrad said he knew dozens who formerly went on sprees who were now supporting their families, but would not embarrass them by telling their names. Dr. Watson numbered them by the thousand. Mr. Davis said he would not co-operate with a wet organization by giving them names.

The bus will leave here today or

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Post

# SIX MORE ALLEGED WELFARE FRAUDS

## Bank Accounts of Those Receiving Aid To Be Attached

Six more cases of alleged fraud on the city have been uncovered by the Welfare Department, and bank accounts believed to belong to the six recipients of aid will be attached next week by Hale Power, assistant corporation counsel, it was learned today.

These cases, like the 10 in which attachments were obtained Thursday, have nothing to do with the police investigation and were discovered by Welfare Department workers and turned over to the office of Corporation Counsel Silverman for investigation and prosecution.

It is understood that these six persons have received a total of approximately \$2000 from the city.

Among the cases which were investigated by the Law Department this week was that of a woman who has received \$285 from the city. Mr Power has attached a bank account of \$1100 alleged to be hers.

### Complicated Case

Another case is that of a man who has received \$236 from the city and is alleged to have a bank account of \$1375. A married couple is said to have received \$218 from the city and to have two bank accounts totaling \$1212.

An example of the complicated nature of some of the cases is that of a man and woman who have received \$301 from the city. The wife and her mother have a joint account from which the mother withdrew \$4900 in 1931 to buy a house. She bought the house and \$251 remains in the joint account, it is alleged. All these cases were discovered by Welfare Department workers and turned over to the Law Department.

Corporation Counsel Silverman said this morning that Mr Power, who is now handling the welfare cases, was assigned to this work a year ago, as a result of the suggestion of Mayor Curley that some one of the assistants be definitely assigned for this purpose. During the past year he has investigated and prosecuted many cases and recovered a large amount of money for the city, \$20,000 being paid back during the last five months.

### No Chinese Case

One race among the many represented in Boston seems likely to have a clean slate at the end of the welfare investigation. So far as can be learned at present, no Chinese are among those who have been charged with receiving aid from the city illegally, and at the La Grange-st Police Station, which covers Chinatown, it was said that no case of a Chinese was among those investigated.

Apparently the Chinese take care of

their own, for there seems to be none of that race receiving aid at present. A hurried scanning of the lists at the Welfare Headquarters by one of the workers there resulted in a statement that there were apparently no Chinese listed.

The police investigation seems to indicate that some of the districts are relatively free from flagrant fraud cases. It is understood that there are few in the Beacon Hill District or in the Brighton District.

At the station in the latter district it was said no cases of persons with sizable bank accounts had been found and that a majority of the cases seem to have been legitimate or at least to be largely a matter of opinion.

City Councillor Thomas M. Burke said this afternoon that when the Council meets Monday he will insist that an investigation of the entire Department of Public Welfare be undertaken by a council committee.

Mr Burke, who is a member of the Welfare Committee of the Council of which Joseph McGrath is chairman, said that he will seek to have this committee take up the matter, but that if this is not done he will ask the Council to appoint a new special committee.

## \$107,000 FOR TUNNEL PLANT

### Ventilating System to Be Built in East Boston

Construction of a 10-story ventilating plant, five floors of which will be below street level, to provide fresh air for the \$16,000,000 East Boston traffic tunnel was ordered late yesterday by Mayor Curley at a cost of \$107,000.

The job went to the Rugo Construction Company, the lowest of 10 bidders, and the work of building the structure will start Monday at Decatur and Maverick streets, East Boston, above the traffic tube.

To provide a smooth asphalt pavement on Norfolk street, Dorchester, from Talbot avenue to the New Haven railroad bridge, a distance of about a mile, the Mayor approved a \$44,259.30 contract to M. F. Gaddis, the low bidder, who will complete the work by Oct. 15.

As the second lowest bidder, the A. G. Tomasello & Sons Company got the job of grading and laying a new playground at Stimson street, near Washington street in the Germantown section of West Roxbury at a cost of \$12,133. The lowest bidder offered to do the work for \$245 less, but the Park department protested that he had no previous experience with the park sys-

# MAYOR AND WHITESIDE SWAP RAPS

## Former Sarcastic on New Plea for Tax Reductions

Ridiculing the public spirit of Attorney Alexander Whiteside, Mayor Curley last night attacked the former corporation counsel for seeking tax reductions on \$12,238,200 worth of property upon which the Atlantic National Bank held mortgages.

### "ISN'T WORTH TALKING TO"

The Mayor alleged that the attorney was more interested in wealthy clients than in the small-home owners of the city, who would be forced to bear the burden of large tax abatements.

Whiteside declined to discuss the Mayor's latest contribution to the assessment controversy. "The Mayor isn't worth talking to," was his sharp retort.

"Sixty cases representing requests for reductions in assessed valuations of \$12,238,200 were today filed by Alexander Whiteside, representing the owners of properties upon which the Atlantic National Bank is mortgagee," said the Mayor.

"The cases filed today by this sterling advocate of efficiency, economy and sound municipal administration, plus the cases upon which he has recently appeared, represent the huge total of \$31,000,000."

## CURLEY APPOINTS DR. M. H. SPELLMAN

Dr. Martin H. Spellman, brother of Msgr. Francis J. Spellman, was today appointed by Mayor Curley to the position of medical examiner of the Boston fire department. Dr. Spellman headed the list as result of a recent civil service examination in which he emerged number one man.

## CITY WILL PAY BLAST DAMAGE

### Church Refuses Settlement For W. Roxbury Explosion

Thirty-eight of 39 claimants for damages to property, the result of an explosion on Edgemere road, West Roxbury, on June 30, will be paid a total of \$12,017 by the city of Boston. One claimant, a church, located three-quarters of a mile from the scene, refuses to accept the sum offered by the city and the case may go to court.

The city is not legally bound to pay the damages. The contractor who was doing the work on the sewer pipes when the explosion occurred was bonded only to the extent of \$1000.

Agreements were reached in 32 cases by conferences between Building Commissioner Edward W. Roemer and the property owners. The remaining seven claimants called on Mayor Curley yesterday with the result that satisfactory agreement was reached in all but one case, that of the church. Church officials claim damages to stained glass windows which were shattered.

Houses for which damages are being paid are located on Hinsdale road, Washington street, Cheriton and Edgemere roads.

## CURLEY ASSAILS WHITESIDE AGAIN

### Tells of 60 Tax Reduction Cases Lawyer Files

Atty. Alexander Whiteside, counsel for numerous Boston property owners seeking reductions in their assessments from the state board of tax appeals, and a target for much criticism by Mayor Curley in his current controversy with the Boston municipal research bureau, was again assailed by the mayor in a statement issued yesterday.

The mayor, in his statement, said:

"When I made the statement recently that Alexander Whiteside was a raider and that he was inviting individuals or corporations, whose properties were subject to mortgages held by the Atlantic National Bank, to engage him as counsel in securing abatements, he became rather indignant and stated that I was talking through my hat."

"Sixty cases representing requests for reductions in assessed valuations of \$12,238,200 were today filed by Alexander Whiteside, representing the owners of properties upon which the Atlantic National Bank is mortgagee. The cases filed today by this sterling advocate of efficiency, economy and sound municipal administration, plus the cases upon which he has recently appeared, represent the huge total of \$31,000,000."

"Provided the group of altruistic public citizens of the type of Alexander Whiteside were larger and provided their zeal was equal in dissipating property values before a hostile tax appeal and the burden to be borne by small

home owners in the form of increased taxes would be unbearable."

"There is neither merit nor equity in the course pursued by Mr. Whiteside since his success means relief for large property owners and a shifting of the burden of cost of government in the form of taxation upon those least able to bear it, namely, the small home owners."

"The time to establish equitable values upon real estate, bonds, stocks or merchandise, is when conditions are normal, and conditions are not normal as yet."

When informed of the mayor's statement, Whiteside's comment was: "He isn't worth talking to."

## CURLEY ORDERS SPEED IN SETTING TAX RATE

Mayor Curley said yesterday that the 1932 tax rate probably will not be declared for another 10 days. The large number of applications for abatements and reduced valuations made during the past year at City Hall and before the state board of tax appeals has delayed the work of setting up the assessors' figures from which the new rate will be partly computed. Mayor Curley has instructed officials of the assessing department to expedite the work as much as possible, keeping the necessary forces working nights as well as days so that the rate may be set at the earliest possible date. An increase of several dollars is looked for in last year's rate of \$31.50.

## Post DAMAGE COST TO CITY OF \$12,000

### Mayor to Ask Legislature to Approve Payments

Having approved the payment of \$12,017.34 to 38 West Roxbury residents, whose houses were damaged by a contractor's dynamite explosion two months ago, Mayor Curley will request the next Legislature to grant authorization of the city's action in this case.

He agreed with the residents that the city was morally obligated to come to the rescue of the victims of the accidental blast, but he pointed out that there was no law authorizing the city to make the payments.

## VENTILATING PLANT CONTRACT IS LET

### Rugo Co. to Build 10-Story Tunnel Building

Upon recommendation of the transit commission, Mayor Curley yesterday awarded a contract to the Rugo Construction Company for erection of a ventilating plant for the new vehicular tunnel under the harbor extending between Boston proper and East Boston. The structure, to be erected over the tunnel at Decatur and Maverick streets, East Boston, will be of brick and extend five stories above the street level and to an equal depth below.

The bid of the Rugo company, lowest of 10 submitted, was \$107,000.

Mayor Curley also awarded a contract in the amount of \$44,259 to M. F. Gaddis Company, for asphalt surfacing of Norfolk street, Dorchester, between Talbot avenue and the bridge about a mile distant. The Gaddis company submitted the lowest bid.

On recommendation of Henry P. Long, park commissioner, the mayor awarded a contract in the sum of \$12,132 to A. G. Tomasello & Son for construction of a new playground near Stimson street and the Washington street boulevard, in the Germartown section of West Roxbury.

The Tomasello company's bid was \$245 above that of the lowest bidder, but inasmuch as the latter company had not performed any previous work for the park department and as the Tomasello company, according to Commissioner Long, had carried out several contracts satisfactorily, the recommendation of Long that the job be awarded to Tomasello was accepted by the mayor. Work on the project, which involves filling and loaming, will start next Monday.

A total of \$50,000 was appropriated for the playground by the city council, and of this sum \$21,000 was spent in the purchase of the land.

## STATE AUDIT SOUGHT IN REVERE PETITION

### Municipal Accounts Not Examined For Four Years

A petition seeking an audit by the state of the municipal accounts of Revere is being circulated in Revere and already has been signed by a number of citizens. The petitioners point out that no audit has been made in nearly four years.

According to the petition, the signers are "prompted by a genuine desire on the part of the citizens and taxpayers to ascertain the true financial condition of the city and thereby be in a position to determine what course to pursue for their general welfare."

The petition, circulated by Atty. Myron Widgerson, will be filed with Theodore M. Waddell, state director of accounts, either this morning or Monday. Among the signers are two former mayors, a past president of the chamber of commerce and several of the largest taxpayers in the city.

Revere's tax rate was recently reduced \$2 to \$39.60.

Globe

8/20/32

# FAILS TO FIND ANY MAN IN BOSTON REFORMED BY 18TH AMENDMENT

**"Diogenes" Goes to Maine, and, If Search There Is Unsuccessful, Will Abandon Hunt, During Which 30 States Have Been Visited**

Paul Morris, director of the Prohibition Research Committee's expedition to find just one man who has been reformed from drinking because of the 18th Amendment, summed up his day's search in Boston last night and felt much discouraged about it.

He and his four companions have traveled 12,000 miles from coast to coast in their bus "Diogenes," interviewing thousands of "dry" leaders and city officials, but they are sorry to report that they have not found one law-reformed drunkard. They even have failed to find a single family which has been bettered by the man in the house becoming sober because of the law.

They came to Boston, feeling confident that in this citadel of "law and order" they would find at least one of the many thousand law-reformed drunkards that "dry" leaders from El Paso to Sault Ste Marie had assured them were in this country.

First they called on Mayor Curley, who greeted them with the words, "I don't think you can find anyone in Boston who has stopped drinking solely because of the 18th Amendment."

"Most hard drinkers nowadays learned to drink since prohibition."

### Pastor Refuses Names

Next they called on Rev A. Z. Conrad, pastor of the Park Street Church, for whom "repeal" is a fighting word morning, noon and night.

"Why, I know a dozen men who went on habitual sprees, could not support their families, and beat their wives, but they now are completely reformed and support their families comfortably," Dr Conrad told them.

But, according to Mr Morris, the clergyman would not supply names and addresses.

Mr Morris looked over his notes and selected the names of Mrs Henry G. Peabody, noted local dry, and Mrs William Tilton, head of the women's committee of the Antisaloon League.

He learned that Mrs Peabody was spending the Summer in New Hampshire and was not available for an interview by Mr Morris. Mrs Tilton was likewise out of town.

Then Mr Morris was genuinely disappointed to learn that all the Women's Christian Temperance Union officials were in Seattle attending the convention there.

Dr Robert Watson, secretary of the Lord's Day League, an ardent "dry," was the next person whose aid was asked by Mr Morris.

"Why, thousands of people have stopped drinking because of the law," Dr Watson exclaimed. "But, needless to say, if I gave their names, they would consider it an unfriendly act."

Mr Morris said all he needed was one name. Then he could race back to New York, turn over his bus, get his pay, join his family again, and start in writing magazine articles.

### Police Head Knows of None

He went to Police Headquarters and called on Supt Michael H. Crowley.

"I could not honestly say that I have known of a hard-drinking man who has been reformed by the 18th Amendment," the police superintendent told him.

Next Mr Morris called at the Men's Industrial Home of the Salvation Army and talked with I. Good, acting manager.

"I am sorry but we keep no records of the sort of cases you are looking for," Mr Good told him. "I know of men who have stopped drinking through persuasion and religion, but when it comes to the law, I don't know of any."

By this time, the afternoon was nearly over. Although Mr Morris has a slight suspicion that he is "persona non grata" around Anti-Saloon League headquarters, he called on Arthur J. Davis, State superintendent of the Massachusetts Anti-Saloon League.

He said he found Mr Davis inclined to treat his 12,000-mile search as "just one of those things."

"Mr Davis tried to laugh it off," Mr Morris said later. "He said that even if he were able to produce any cases, he would not give me their names because I was on the 'wet' side."

Reporters who talked with Mr Morris at the end of his day's fruitless search seemed to detect a rather hurt expression in his eyes, as well as weariness. It was plain to see that the Anti-Saloon League head's jocularity had been interpreted by Mr Morris as a reflection on the scientific character of his expedition.

After all, he argued, hadn't he traveled 12,000 miles through prairies and Sunday traffic jams with nothing but a few hundred tons of newspaper clippings to show for it.

### Gives Up Search Here

"Are you going to keep up your search in Boston?" he was asked.

"No, I give up," the expedition head answered dejectedly. "I don't believe there's one man in Boston who has been reformed by the 18th Amendment. But I'm going to make one more stab. I'm going to visit the first State in the Union to have a prohibition law. I'm going to Maine."

Mr Morris confessed that he will be rather glad when the expedition disbands. He said he was a little worried over his health. It seems that in every city and town he has visited he has been offered a drink. He felt so confident that his chances of discovering the "one man" were better in so-called bone dry States that he

spent much time in those States and found the liquor there was terrible.

In fact, it is Mr Morris' conclusion that the "drier" a State is, the worse its liquor. He still remembers Oklahoma with a grimace, and he is apprehensive of the liquor in Maine.

Reporters, suspecting that the interview would soon degenerate into a discussion of the homebrew recipes used in various parts of the country, implored Mr Morris to reveal first what his inspiration had been on his tour. "My inspiration has been the Northwest Mounted Police," he explained. "They always get their man and I . . ."

His voice seemed to break. A tear—or it seemed like one—seemed to teeter on his eyelid.

"And I," he continued, "am a failure."

## TRANSCRIPT Reception Planned for Liner *Saturnia*

With a near capacity list of passengers the Italian Line motorship *Saturnia* is scheduled to call at Commonwealth Pier, South Boston, about 8 A. M., Sunday, and, after embarking nearly 300 New Englanders, will sail at noon for the Azores and the Mediterranean. The liner will have approximately 1000 passengers from New York.

Mayor Curley has arranged to have the harbor fireboats meet the *Saturnia* and escort her to her berth with a water display from their deck guns. The fire department band will be stationed on the pier to greet the home-going Italian Olympic team. A reception to the team will be held aboard ship and Mayor Curley will present to the team a loving cup on behalf of the citizens of Boston. Another cup will be presented by Joseph A. Tomassello, who, like his father A. G. Tomassello, has been knighted by King Victor Emanuel of Italy for distinguished citizenship.

Among the passengers from Boston will be a group of relatives and friends of Mgr. Francis J. Spellman, sailing to witness his consecration as auxiliary bishop of Boston. The elevation is to take place at the Vatican on Sept. 8. The group includes two brothers of Mgr. Spellman, both Boston physicians. They are Dr. Martin H. Spellman, and Dr. John Spellman. Both will be accompanied on the trip by their wives. Fire Commissioner Edward F. McLaughlin and Mrs. McLaughlin are to sail with the Spellmans, as are the Rev. M. J. Owens of Quincy, Dr. George L. Walton and Professor Caleb W. Lawrence.

Globe

8/20/32

## CITY COUNCIL MAY INVESTIGATE FRAUDS

### Brackman Likely to Ask Inquiry Into Welfare Aid

The likelihood that the situation regarding welfare frauds will be discussed at the meeting of the City Council Monday was indicated yesterday, when Councilor David M. Brackman announced that he will probably recommend that the special welfare committee of the Council be ordered to investigate the matter.

Some members of the Council are known to be opposed to such an investigation at this time on the ground that it would interfere with, and duplicate, the inquiry now being conducted by the police.

Mr Brackman told a Globe reporter last night that he had not made up his mind definitely to recommend an investigation by the Council committee and would first consult Joseph McGrath, chairman of the committee, and other members of the Council. Mr Brackman said that his desire was that the whole situation be fully investigated and the results made public.

#### "Carelessness or Collusion"

Apparently, he said, there has been either carelessness, inefficiency, or even collusion, on the part of some welfare visitors, or the number of visitors has been much too small for the work they are called upon to do. He added that he firmly believed that most, if not all, of the welfare visitors were honest and faithful and that their numbers should be increased.

For the sake of the Welfare Department, and especially since there have been intimations that some persons were receiving aid to which they were not entitled because they had been recommended by members of the Council, Mr Brackman said he felt the whole situation should be thoroughly investigated.

He added that recommendations by Councilors were not supposed to be binding on the welfare department and that he did not believe any of the Councilors who have written to the Welfare Department on behalf of apparently needy people intended that their recommendations should be accepted without investigation of the case by the welfare visitors.

Councilor McGrath, chairman of the welfare committee, has maintained since the first suggestion of a Council investigation was made earlier in the week that for his committee to take up the matter at this time would be to duplicate the investigation being carried on by the police and might possibly "interfere with the splendid work now being done by Deputy Goode." When the police have finished their investigation it will be time enough for the Council to take a hand if it should then seem advisable, Mr McGrath said.

#### To Ask Warrants for Six

Asst Corporation Counsel Hale Power announced yesterday afternoon that he will apply for warrants in six cases of alleged fraud, in Central Municipal Court, Monday morning. He said he will summons the Public Welfare Department to bring in the records of the cases and will seek a

court order to have certain drunk records produced.

These cases are not the result of the police investigation. While Deputy Supt Thomas F. Goode's new bureau of investigation is studying the first of the hundreds of cases sent back from the various police stations after preliminary investigations and while officers all over the city are carrying on the laborious work of checking up on every one of the 20,000 persons now receiving city aid, the city law department is going on with the work it has done for years, investigating and, when necessary, prosecuting cases sent to it by the Welfare Department.

It has been estimated that the department prosecutes an average of not less than 30 cases a month, all originally uncovered by the Welfare Department workers. Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman said yesterday that, during the last five months, his assistants have recovered approximately \$20,000 from persons who had been receiving aid illegally. A number of people are now serving jail sentences for fraud on the city.

#### Silverman Denies Friction

Mr Silverman denied that there is any friction between himself and Police Commissioner Eugene Hultman over the police investigation.

"I haven't talked with the commissioner since the police investigation began," said Mr Silverman. "We are going right ahead in our own way, conducting our own investigation. The law department is going to make its arrests through police officers attached to the Welfare Department.

"We are going ahead in the regular way and getting results. We get our initial information from the Welfare Department. Then we investigate and act. We are not talking, we are acting."

Mr Silverman added that he believes the public is being given a wholly distorted idea of the number of fraudulent cases. He said he believed many of the cases which have become public, on investigation, will prove to be far less flagrant than they appear and that some of the most suspicious may turn out to be legitimate.

The corporation counsel cited as an example the case of a man receiving aid who was reported to have been seen driving an automobile. On investigation, he said, it was learned that the man had secured a job which he only held two days and that the car he was driving belonged to his temporary employer, who had told him to take it for certain work he was doing. He lost the job at the end of two days and did not work again.

#### Drinks Given by Friends

Many cases of drunkenness prove on investigation to be those of men who are given drinks by well-meaning or ill-advised friends, Mr Silverman said. In a number of cases where it was reported to the Law Department that a man was spending his welfare allotment on drink it was found that the family were getting every cent of the money, but that the man, disheartened over his inability to get work or possibly naturally inclined to drunkenness, was being treated by friends.

As to the cases of persons found to have bank accounts, Mr Silverman said that while his department is now prosecuting a number of such cases, some on investigation turn out to be due to mistaken identity. Sometimes the person found to have a bank account is not the person of the same name who is receiving aid from the city. In other cases malicious

misinformation is given to investigators by neighbors, he added.

One case unearthed by the Welfare Department is that of a woman who applied for aid some time ago. Recently information was received that not long before she went on the list she had withdrawn \$4900 from a bank. This case has been turned over to the Law Department and court action is likely to follow.

TRAVELER 8/20/32

## CHIEF POWER LAID TO REST

### Fire Department and City Officials Pay Last Tribute

Hundreds of persons, including many children, and representing all walks of life, private and public, filled St. Gregory's Church in Dorchester Lower Mills today to pay final tribute to the memory of Assistant Fire Chief Henry J. Power, who died Thursday of a heart attack.

The solemn high mass of requiem was celebrated by the Rev. Francis X. Dolan, D. D., pastor of the church, the Rev. Richard F. Howard was deacon and the Rev. John J. Considine was sub-deacon.

Seated within the chancel were the Rev. Henry Lyons, I. P. P., of Haverhill, and the Rev. John F. Cronin of Beachmont, lifelong friends of the veteran fire fighter.

From his late home at 56 Fairmont road, Dorchester, a detail of 50 officers of the Boston fire department and 200 uniformed privates escorted the cortège to the church.

The active bearers were District Chiefs John McDouough, Daniel Hurley, Edward Locke, James Ryan and Capts. Charles Farren, James Lunny, Frank Stimson and Daniel Crowley.

The honorary bearers were Mayor James M. Curley, Fire Commissioner Edward McLaughlin, Police Commissioner Eugene C. Hultman, Congressman John J. Douglass, Dennis J. Kelleher, probation officer, East Boston court; Henry Flynn, assistant clerk of superior court, and Herbert Hickey, executive secretary, fire department.

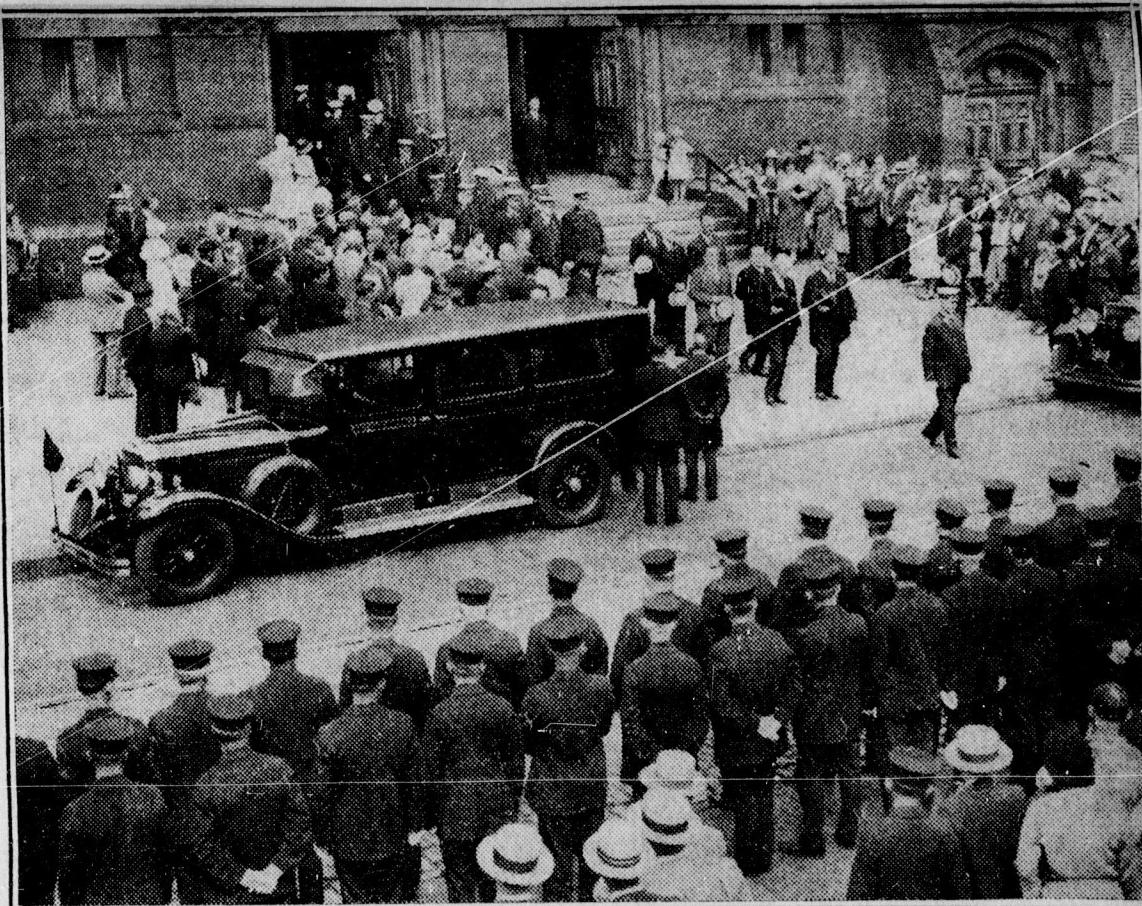
A large delegation of Elks attended the services. Hundreds who learned to know and respect Power, during his more than 30 years with the department, came from all sections of Greater Boston. Many came from East Boston, in which district he long served. Parents brought their children to pay final tribute to the man who was never too busy to answer their questions and show them about the firehouse.

As the cortège passed engine 46 at Pearl square, and engine 43 at Andrew square, the companies of both stood outside and saluted their chief, whose death came but a few hours after he had fought a stiff three-alarm fire. The bells tolled.

The burial was at Holy Cross cemetery, Malden, where prayers were read.

Ghobz

8/20/32



Dignitaries leaving St. Gregory's Church after mass. They are headed by Mayor Curley and Commissioner McLaughlin. Firemen are shown facing the church. Dist Chief Charles Donahue is ahead of Mayor Curley and Commissioner McLaughlin.

Mayor Curley, Fire Commissioner Edward F. McLaughlin and other dignitaries of the city and State joined in paying final tribute today to Asst Fire Chief Henry J. Power, one of the most popular executives of the Boston Fire Department. The whole city, particularly the fire-fighting forces, was represented, as was the State. Many business men, delegations from fraternal organizations and hundreds of friends also attended.

The gathering was undoubtedly one of the largest ever to assemble in St. Gregory's Church, Dorchester Lower Mills, where the solemn requiem mass was celebrated at 10 o'clock by Rev Richard F. Howard, assisted by Rev John J. Considine as deacon and Rev Bernard P. McNulty as subdeacon. Within the sanctuary were Rev Henry Lyons, IPP, of Haverhill, and Rev John F. Cronin of Beachmont.

The long funeral cortege formed at the home, 58 Fairmount st, Ashmont, at 9:30. It consisted of 50 officers of the department and a delegation of 200 uniformed men from the ranks, off duty. District Chief Charles Donahue was in charge of this detail.

On the way to the church the sidewalks on Dorchester av were filled with people, who stood with bared heads as the cortege went by, and at the church a crowd seldom equaled had gathered, attesting the popularity Chief Power enjoyed among his fellow-men.

Honorary bearers were Mayor James M. Curley, Fire Commissioner Edward F. McLaughlin, Executive Secretary Herbert Hickey, Congressman John J. Douglass, Election Commissioner Peter F. Taaffe, Street Commissioner Theo-

dore A. Glynn and Probation Officer Dennis J. Kelleher of the East Boston court.

The active bearers were District Chiefs John McDonough, District 4; Daniel Hurley, District 10; Edward Locke, District 9; James Ryan, District 14, and Capts Charles Farren, Ladder 4; James Lunney, Ladder 5; Frank Shannon, Engine 43, and Dan Crowley, Ladder 2.

The music during the mass was furnished by Mrs William H. Fallon, organist, assisted by Miss Elizabeth M. O'Connell, sister of Ex-Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell, and Miss Gertrude Devine.

#### Numerous Floral Tributes.

The floral tributes were numerous and there were many spiritual bouquets. Among the floral pieces were a beautiful offering from Mayor Curley and pieces from William F. Conran of New York, officers and members of Ladder 8, Donald Holbrook, James A. Green, Broadway Fire Headquarters, Mrs Martha Greely, Mr and Mrs John Regan, Fire Officers' Club, which sent two pieces; Henry Herd and family, William D. Randall and family, Mr and Mrs Sutherland and family, Boston Lodge of Elks, which was represented at the services by Joseph A. Crossen, exalted ruler; Peter McCarron, secretary; John O'Connor, leading knight, and Dr P. J. Foley, treasurer; Mrs McLaughlin, officers and members of Ladder 4 and Rescue Company 2, Mr and Mrs Hodge, standing piece from Division 4, Bowdoin sq; Board of Fire Chiefs,

Henry Belknap, press representative of the New England Chief's Association; Engine 25, Fort Hill sq; Mr and Mrs Thomas Gilchrist, and pieces from business men from all sections of the city.

As the procession reformed, after the mass, the brother members of the department marched to River st, to Washington st, Richmond st and thence along Dorchester av. The large crowd watched the cortege as it moved to Peabody sq, where the fire apparatus of Engine 46 was lined up and the men stood at attention while the fire bells tolled.

Ranks were broken at Dorchester and Welles avs and the funeral party proceeded to Holy Cross Cemetery Malden, where interment took place. The arrangements were conducted by Henry Craig.

HERALD 8/20/32

Post 8/21/32

## AID RECIPIENTS BEHIND IN RENT

Landlords Complain They Do Not Pay Out of City Funds as Agreed

### CITY COUNSEL READY TO FILE CIVIL SUITS

With Mayor Curley trying to slash welfare aid to a minimum without allowing any one to suffer, and investigations under way to weed out impostors, landlords yesterday went to the offices of the welfare board and the city law department to learn what arrangements could be made to collect rents from those getting city relief.

They complained, according to Simon Hecht, chairman of the welfare bureau, and Samuel Silverman, corporation counsel of Boston, that large numbers of recipients of the city aid are not setting aside part of it for rent, as stipulated.

It was admitted by both Hecht and Silverman that in many instances heads of families were receiving the full amount allotted to families of varying sizes on the understanding that part of it would be set aside for rent, light and fuel. With the money in their possession, recipients sometimes prefer to spend it otherwise, especially when they have to choose between paying rent and buying more food.

Hecht and Silverman said that they can do nothing for the landlords, even though those persons are themselves in a precarious position.

According to information obtained at the welfare bureau yesterday, most of the families in which there are several children are getting not more than a week, out of which it is expected that food, fuel, light and rent are to be paid for.

The aid that is standing up highest is that given to mothers' dependent children who come under the state law relative to mothers. This law provides that the city aid "shall be sufficient to enable them to bring up their children properly in their own homes." This law makes it incumbent on the city to furnish proper quarters and living conditions and the city is reimbursed one-third of the cost by the state. In some instances aid under this designation amounts to more than \$25 a week.

Hale Power, assistant corporation counsel specially detailed to handle welfare cases, yesterday received five more cases from the welfare bureau where there were indications that the beneficiaries had money in banks.

One of the cases thus submitted related to a bank account standing in the name of a small child in the family. This money was an accumulation of

amounts saved by the child in the school bank. It is now for the law department to determine whether that small fund shall be seized and applied to the upkeep of the family or used to reimburse the city for part of the money obtained from it through welfare.

#### BORDER LINE CASES

Other cases will be investigated to determine whether there has been any violation of the law from a criminal standpoint or whether they come under the style of "problem cases" with which the welfare bureau deals in large numbers, and which are regarded as border line cases.

Atty. Power is prepared to file 10 civil suits today growing out of his investigation of cases submitted by the welfare bureau. There are apart from the cases under investigation by the police department.

It has been the policy of the city law department for the past year to inquire into cases where there was suspicion of fraud in obtaining the aid and during that period through the watchfulness of Silverman and Power a large number of persons have been obliged to return approximately \$20,000 to the city welfare department and many of those persons were arrested and tried for the theft of the money.

Individual sums thus recovered ranged from \$300 to \$1000 and in one instance \$3100 was involved. The law department has been thus carrying on for many months before the welfare department sought the aid of the police in investigating.

The 493 cases sent by the welfare department to the police on Thursday, that is the "D" group, were dispatched to the various police divisions in which the recipients of the aid are supposed to be located and the cases will be given over to specially detailed men on those divisions for investigation beginning today.

Thomas F. Goode, deputy superintendent, directly in command of the police investigation, is preparing the 1295 cases already investigated for a conference with Eugene C. Hultman, police commissioner, with a view to conducting a survey in order to determine whether fraud has been practised on the city.

Whether the members of the welfare committee of the Boston city council will conduct an inquiry into the activities of the visitors of the welfare department is a matter of conjecture. Report went out on Thursday that such a probe would be started, only to be denied by Joseph McGrath, chairman of that committee, who said that no call had been issued for the committee to meet for such a purpose. A member of that committee, however, said he had a letter calling for such a meeting.

#### BRACKMAN RETORTS

The admission and denial yesterday drew the fire of David Brackman, a councilman, who said he believed that such an investigation should be started and that failure to go ahead with the supposed original idea of a probe would savor of a council whitewash for whatever irregularities might be found among the employees of the welfare department.

Brackman says he will make a demand Monday at a council meeting that the inquiry go forward.

There has been a controversy between Boston and Salem as to what is owed the latter city for welfare paid out by it for the benefit of Bostonians. It was generally believed that about \$2600 was the amount due to Salem, but investigation by the Boston law department indicates that that sum is offset by what Salem owes to Boston and that Boston will receive about \$3700 from Salem.

## M'LEAN IN CHARGE OF FIRE DEPT.

Acting Commissioner During Absence of McLaughlin

Following the funeral rites for Assistant Chief Henry J. Powers of the Boston fire department, yesterday, Deputy Chief Walter H. McLean of 6 Wellesley park, Dorchester, was appointed by Mayor Curley to serve as acting commissioner of the department.

#### M'LAUGHLIN SAILS TODAY

Deputy McLean will serve for three weeks during the absence of Commissioner Edward F. McLaughlin, who is sailing today for Rome to be present at the elevation of Mgr. Francis J. Spellman to the office of auxiliary bishop of Boston.

The fire department band will be at Commonwealth Pier, South Boston, today at noon to give a musical send-off to Fire Commissioner McLaughlin, who will sail on the S.S. *Saturnia*.

At the same time it was made known that Dr. Martin H. Spellman of 475 Commonwealth avenue, Back Bay, brother of Mgr. Spellman, was appointed by Mayor Curley to the post of medical examiner of the fire department. Dr. Spellman in a recent examination by the State Civil Service Commission topped the list of aspirants for the post.

City and department officials were among the throng which filled St. Gregory's Church, Dorchester Lower Mills, at the funeral rites for Assistant Chief Power. A guard of honor composed of 250 members of the department was headed by District Chief Charles A. Donohue.

Mayor Curley, Commissioner Edward F. McLaughlin, Police Commissioner Eugene C. Hultman and Congressman John J. Douglass were among the honorary pall bearers. Fire bells were tolled as the funeral procession passed through the streets to Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, where interment took place.

GLOBE 8/21/32

# CITY SUES FIVE IN WELFARE CASES

To Act Against Six More Accused of Fraud

Burke to Call for Inquiry on Entire Department

Five bills were filed in the Municipal Civil Court yesterday by Asst Corporation Counsel Hale Power, seeking to recover a total of \$944 paid by the Department of Public Welfare to a number of persons. At the same time attachments were served on the respondents and the trustees of their alleged bank accounts.

This action was another step in the routine work of the Law Department in investigating and prosecuting cases sent to it by the Welfare Department and was not part of the police investigation.

The first bill is against Fred Maurand, 1 Wyman pl, Roxbury, and seeks to recover \$70 which the declaration says he received from the Welfare Department between Nov 6, 1931, and Jan 29, 1932. The second is against Jacob Glickman and Jenny Glickman, 10 Intervale st, Roxbury, and seeks to recover \$219 alleged to have been received by them between Jan 26 and July 19 of this year.

## Covering More Than Year

The third bill is against Mary Harrington, 350 Shawmut av, South End, to recover \$185 alleged to have been received between June 25, 1931, and February, 1932. The fourth is against Edward Deitrich and Ada Deitrich, Dale st, Roxbury, and seeks to recover \$301.75 alleged to have been received between Feb 2 and July 19 of this year. The fifth is against Abraham Santog and Rose Santog, 17 Creston st, Roxbury, and is for \$169 alleged to have been received between Feb 10 and May 4 of this year.

These five bills are only part of the Law Department's activities regarding cases sent to it by the Welfare Department for investigation and prosecution. On Monday Mr Power will ask the Municipal Court to grant a number of warrants against persons alleged to have received aid from the city illegally, and later in the week attachments will be sought against six more, who, it is charged, had money in the bank while they were receiving aid.

## Nearly \$1400 in Bank

One of the six persons against whom attachments will be sought later is a woman who has received nearly \$300 from the Welfare Department and is alleged to have more than \$1000 in a local savings bank. Another is a man said to have received nearly \$250, who, the Law Department believes, has nearly \$1400 in a bank.

HERALD 8/21/32

# Spellmans Sail Today on the Saturnia For Consecration Ceremonies in Rome

The consecration of their brother, Bishop-elect F. J. Spellman, recently appointed auxiliary bishop of Boston, at Rome, Sept. 8, will be witnessed by Dr. J. W. Spellman and Dr. M. H. Spellman, Boston, and their wives, who will sail on the Italian liner *Saturnia* from Commonwealth pier, South Boston, at noon, today.

The party will include the Rev. M. J. Owens, pastor of St. Johns Church, Quincy; Fire Commissioner E. F. McLaughlin and Mrs. McLaughlin.

Mayor Curley, in behalf of the city, will present the returning Italian Olympic team a cup and T. A. Tomassello will present a cup given by the Italians of Boston.

The *Saturnia*, en route from New York to the Mediterranean, is expected to proceed at noon with a send-off by the band of the Boston fire department and a demonstration by fireboats.

Others sailing: Dr. G. L. Walton, Miss Alice B. Gould, Mrs. H. P. Clark, Mrs. N. U. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Ghilioni, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. McMurry, the Rev. T. W. Smith, Mrs. C. E. Fay, Miss Mary E. Lawrence, Miss Winfield Smith, Miss Marion E. Rowse, Mrs. M. H. Cook, Miss Louise Cook, Prof. C. W.

Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Squillacoti, G. L. Conley, Miss Stella Brady, J. P. Englert, Thomas O'Connell of Boston; Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Osborn, Nancy Ann Osborn of Brockton.

Mayor Curley yesterday designated Deputy Fire Chief Walter M. McLean to be acting fire commissioner during the absence of Commissioner Edward F. McLaughlin.

ADVERTISER 8/21/32

# DR. SPELLMAN GETS CITY POST

Dr. Martin H. Spellman, brother of Bishop-Elect Francis Spellman, was yesterday appointed medical examiner of the Boston fire department by Mayor Curley.

The physician topped a civil service examination list for that position. Today he sails from this city for Italy where he is to be present at the coming elevation of his brother at ceremonies at the Vatican.

At the same time the Mayor appointed Deputy Chief Walter M. McLean as fire commissioner. He will serve during the absence of Commr. Edward M. McLaughlin who also sails today for Rome.

City Councilor Thomas M. Burke, a member of the Welfare Committee of the Council, said yesterday that when the Council meets on Monday he will seek to have an investigation of the entire Welfare Department ordered. The investigation, he said, should be made either by the Welfare Committee itself, which he says was created with the idea of doing such work, or by a new committee specially appointed. He said he would consult with the Welfare Committee chairman, Councilor Joseph McGrath.

## Need of More Visitors

Burke said that in his opinion the Welfare Department at present needs at least twice as many visitors. There are not enough now to handle the enormously increased number of cases, he thinks, and temporary workers should be taken from the Civil Service lists to aid in the present emergency.

Mr Burke said that he also thought that the Welfare Department as now organized is too centralized. There should be branch offices in each district, he declared, with a central office to handle general matters, leaving the visitors to work principally out of the local offices. This, he thought, would facilitate the proper investigation and checking up on cases.

## Few Brighton Cases

In the meantime the police investigation of all the 20,000 persons now receiving aid is going on steadily. In some districts it is becoming apparent that relatively few fraudulent cases exist, according to statements made to the Globe reporter.

One district where the investigating officers are reporting few cases of fraud is Station 14, Brighton, where, according to Capt. McGrath, there seem to be few doubtful and practically no flagrant cases among the first allotment. Another district which has shown a relatively good record in the first stage of the investigation is Beacon Hill.

Post

8/21/32

# ANGERED BY HALTING OF HIS SPEECH

## Police End Meeting on Common, Threaten Arrest

Moving onto Boston Common last night from a point opposite Bunker Hill monument, to debate vital issues of the day, officials of the Charlestown Public Forum were abruptly halted by police in the midst of their delayed speaking programme and threatened with arrest.

### "RUDELY INSULTED"

A crowd of more than 300 men and women who gathered to listen to local political figures were thrown into a turmoil when police stopped the meeting at 9:45 last night. For half an hour the crowd milled about the Parkman Bandstand, while a detail of police hovered in the background, anticipating a demonstration.

Andrew A. Canavan, chairman of the Charlestown Public Forum, declared that the association had been "rudely insulted by one or more city officials." He announced his intention of filing a protest at once with Mayor Curley. He insisted that the Forum officials had been "tossed about" by someone in authority in the city government.

### No Amplifiers, No Lights

When Chairman Canavan appeared at the Parkman Bandstand at 7 o'clock last night he had a permit for the meeting signed by Mayor Curley. He stated that the granting of the permit automatically called for the amplifiers and the lights on the bandstand.

From 7 until 9:25 o'clock last night officials of the Forum spent two hours searching for the caretaker on the Common who carried the keys to the lights and the amplifiers. A delegation called on the police of La Grange street station, appealing for someone in authority to turn on the lights.

Several members of the Forum combed the city for trace of James Coughlin of 761 Columbia road, Dorchester, caretaker of the Common, who carries one of the keys with him. They were told by someone in Coughlin's home that he was out, but would be back later.

### Halted After 20 Minutes

A frantic hunt was started for someone else in authority who could order the lights and amplifiers turned on. Attempts were made, in the meantime, to hold the crowd by playing the piano. For more than two hours the majority of the orderly crowd waited for the meeting to start.

At 9:25, in the darkness, Chairman Canavan opened the meeting, after being introduced in a brief speech. He announced that the meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the platforms of the Democratic and Republican parties, and that various local political figures would participate in the speaking programme.

City Councillors Clement A. Norton and John F. Dowd were to speak, along with William Prendible, clerk of the Superior Criminal Court, Attorney Charles S. Sullivan, Representative John V. Mahoney, John Lynch, Wendell Thore, Representative William P. Prendergast and several more.

Chairman Canavan was speaking less than 20 minutes when Patrolman James G. McCann of the LaGrange street station pushed through the crowd and mounted to the speaker's side. Canavan stopped his speech to remove the permit from his pocket and show it to the patrolman, declaring that he had been granted legal authority to conduct the meeting.

### Remonstrates in Vain

The patrolman declared that the permit called for the meeting to be held between 7 and 9 o'clock, concluding with, "If you speak another word I'll lock you up." Canavan attempted to remonstrate, and explain that he had waited more than two hours before starting the meeting for the lights and amplifiers to be turned on.

The officer repeated his warning, and Canavan quietly slipped off the stand and was surrounded by members of the forum. For more than half an hour the crowd milled about the bandstand, voicing their disapproval of the abrupt halt.

Later Lieutenant Charles W. Miller of the LaGrange street station declared that he had instructed the patrolman, when he called in from his box near the Common, to stop the meeting if it was in progress, that the time limit had expired. He insisted that he had no authority to allow the meeting to continue after 9 o'clock, and that officials of the forum would have to protest to some other city official.

Chairman Canavan, in the brief time he was talking, advocated the election of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt for President.

## Curley Opens Roosevelt Drive in Maine Friday

Mayor Curley will open up his travelling campaign for Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Democratic ticket Friday night, when he will address a meeting to be held at Sanford, Me., starting at 6:30 o'clock.

## SANFORD TO HEAR CURLEY IN SPEECH ON SATURDAY

Democrats of Maine will gather in Sanford next Saturday evening to hear Mayor James M. Curley speak at a political gathering of supporters of Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York, Democratic nominee for the Presidency, it was announced here yesterday. Louis Blann, Roosevelt leader there, invited the Mayor to make three speeches in Maine but he was able to accept only the invitation for Saturday evening.

HERALD 8/21/32

## CURLEY SEES, HEARS HIMSELF ON SCREEN

### Ten-Minute Campaign Film to Be Shown All Over United States

Mayor Curley yesterday saw and heard himself make a ten-minute speech from the talking screen in behalf o' the Roosevelt-Garner presidential ticket. While modestly withholding any opinion of his oratorical skill as it revealed itself to him from the screen, the mayor expressed himself as highly satisfied with the film from the photographic and sound synchronization aspects.

The film was displayed to the mayor and a few friends in the projection room of the Warner brothers offices at 131 Arlington street. It was made in the Warner brothers studios in New York during the mayor's recent visit there to confer with James A. Farley, chairman of the Democratic national committee. In the film the mayor delivers a speech dealing largely with present economic conditions and "the forgotten man" as pictured originally by Gov. Roosevelt.

Friends of the mayor who saw the picture praised it highly. The picture will be released soon for public showing in theatres in Boston and throughout the entire country.

## CURLEY HEARS SELF IN TALKIE

### Pre-View of Film to Aid Roosevelt

Mayor Curley, late yesterday, saw and heard himself deliver a seven-minute address on "the forgotten man," in behalf of Franklin D. Roosevelt for President, in a pre-view, held at the Warner Brothers' private projection room at 131 Arlington street, in the film district of the city.

The Mayor expressed satisfaction with the film, which was prepared during his recent visit to confer with the presidential candidate and managers of the Democratic campaign. The picture will be released at practically all the theatres in New England, according to plans of the production company.

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# Thousands Bid Farewell to Italians Who Competed in the Olympic Games

An ovation was tendered the Italian Olympic team sailing home on the Italian liner *Saturnia* from Commonwealth pier, South Boston, yesterday noon, the departure being the most colorful of the season with 5000 visitors, fireboats spreading plumes of spray, airplanes zooming and yachts all about.

A loving cup from the city of Boston was presented the team, of which 75 members assembled in the liner's gold room, by A. J. Tomasello, representing Mayor Curley, the gift being accepted by Caesar Gratarola, the team captain.

Another cup from the Italians of Greater Boston was presented by Silvio Vitale, Italian vice-consul at Boston. Thirty team members, including Luigi Baccalli, who electrified the world with his triumph in the classic 1500-metres, were not present, Baccalli having stopped off in Chicago. Judge Frank Leveroni welcomed the group. Each member of the team was presented a portrait in colors of George Washington.

Fire Commissioner E. F. McLaughlin

and his wife were sailing for Rome to be present on Sept. 8 at the consecration ceremony of the Rt. Rev. F. J. Spellman, newly-appointed auxiliary bishop of Boston. Others of the group were Dr. J. W. Spellman, Dr. M. H. Spellman, brothers of the new bishop, with their wives; the Rev. M. J. Owens, pastor of St. John's Church, Quincy; J. P. Englebert, superintendent of Boston's public buildings, and T. A. O'Connell, Boston publisher.

The *Saturnia*, en route from New York, will call at the Azores, Lisbon, Gibraltar, Cannes, Naples, Patras, Ragusa and Trieste. Capt. Aristide Consulich is in command. Milo Rhodi, 32, who recently completed a term in Wethersfield prison in Connecticut and who escaped from the immigration station at East Boston and was captured in Providence after four hours of liberty, was brought from Charles street jail and deported on the liner. From Ellis Island, New York, were about 20 deportees and a number of aliens who were being sent home at government expense on their request.

## LABOR DAY PLANS OF BOSTON UNIONS

### Mass Meeting on Common And an Outing at Pemberton

Labor Day plans for Boston will include speeches at the Parkman bandstand on the Common beginning at 10 A. M., Sept. 5, by Mayor Curley, Gov. Ely, Representative John W. McCormack and others, and a labor outing at Pemberton. The Boston Central Labor Union will be in charge. Non-partisan discussion of the economic questions of the hour will be the keynote of the gatherings and L. J. Moriarty, president of the Central Labor Union, and James T. Moriarty, president of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor, will deliver their views.

Guests at the outing at Pemberton will include John A. Kelliher, sheriff of Suffolk county, and John P. Manning, assistant clerk of the superior criminal court. There will be an elaborate program of sports and entertainment.

Francis P. Fenton is chairman of the committee in charge, which comprises Harry F. Grages, Mary V. Murphy, J. Arthur Moriarty, William Dwyer, E. A. Johnson, John van Vaerenewyc, Michael J. O'Hara, Eva Rankin, John J. Kearney, Harry G. Dunderdale, Charles O'Donnell, Miles Connors, Bessie Elffman, Donald McIntyre, Charles Canfield, Rose Norwood, Richard Garrity, Austin Kaveney, John Shiner, Nathan Sidd, Charles Morris, Philip Kramer, Ida Smith, William Walsh, James Fitzgerald, Thomas Callahan, Edward McCarthy, Cecil Doyle, Martin Casey, James T. Moriarty, Otto Buchwald, Michael Hines, John MacDonald and Mary G. Thompson.

## WELFARE AID INQUIRY HALTS MANY FRAUDS

### Local Police to Prosecute Where Illegality Clear

The continuous publicity given the police investigation of alleged frauds in obtaining aid from the Public Welfare Department has thrown such a scare into certain fraudulent recipients that many of them have voluntarily cancelled their requests for help, it became known yesterday.

Police of the Joy-st Station discovered that eight pedlers, who claimed they were out of work, had had their names taken from the welfare list at about the time the police were given their cases to investigate.

Two pedlers, whom police claim work each day, still receive aid from the city and when questioned by police said they will request their names dropped.

The investigation continues to reveal frauds. In one case, a man listed as living on Lowell st has never resided there, according to the police. A check on another has revealed that the man getting aid had moved several months ago, but still gets his aid as of that address.

Reports from various stations are slowly reaching headquarters and following the first actual prosecutions in court this week, others will be ready. It is also expected that Police Commissioner Eugene C. Hultman will make an official statement this week concerning the future policy of the department in respect to these cases.

Mr. Hultman previously indicated that where absolute fraud is discovered, the police would prosecute, but if there is any doubt, the reports would be sent to the Welfare Department for action there.

Reports on 15 new frauds came from East Boston. Twelve of these were wrong addresses and the alleged recipients were not known. There was one case of a man, receiving aid since 1930, shown to have passed the title of a house of a nephew. Another man, who has received aid for a year, has a son and two daughters working.

The investigations led to the arrest of a couple in East Boston on charges of drunkenness and living together as man and wife though not married to each other. Police say the man has been receiving aid for two years for the support of a wife and four children living in Brockton. The woman is well known to the police and has a criminal record. They will be arraigned in the East Boston Court this morning.

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# RUSHING TO STOP THEIR CITY DOLE

## Fraudulent Aid Receivers Hurry to Cover, as Police Probe Reaches Toward Them

While police investigation continued to reveal amazing cases of public welfare frauds, including instances of persons on the aid list who have recently transferred ownership of real estate to members of their families, the indications were plain last night that scores of those receiving aid unlawfully were running to cover and removing their names from the welfare rolls.

### RUSH TO QUIT

Some of those who have been receiving aid for the past two years have caused their names to be dropped during the last 10 days, since police and city authorities started a rigid probe. First intimation that the aid receivers were voluntarily cancelling their bids for aid came last night when police of the Joy street station, in checking up on the latest batch of cards sent them by the Public Welfare Department, found that eight peddlers they had been asked to investigate have had their aid cancelled during the last week.

Two other persons, who work every day and yet receive aid, were located and when confronted with a threat of possible prosecution told police they would apply at once to have their

names taken off the list. Two additional claimants were found never to have lived at the addresses they gave the welfare department.

### East Boston Fakes

First reports on the latest batch of cases were slow, the police having only a few facts on hand regarding the claimants. But in the East Boston section, the police under the direction of Captain Archibald Campbell discovered 15 new fraud cases. Of that number, 12 were fake addresses.

One arrest touching on the welfare cases came when a man and woman were arrested on drunkenness charges and were also charged with living together though not married. The man, according to police, has a wife and four children living in Brockton. For the past two years he has been receiving aid for the support of his family and apparently has been spending it on women and liquor. The woman in the case is well known to the police.

It is expected that Police Commissioner Hultman will take a definite stand today or tomorrow on the method police intend to follow in the prosecution of the welfare fraud cases.

The development of a permanent co-operative plan between the police and public welfare departments for continuous supervision of welfare relief cases was suggested by the joint committee on municipal finance of the Boston Chamber of Commerce and the Boston Real Estate Exchange, according to a statement issued last night.

It is expected that such supervision will discourage fraudulent efforts to obtain relief, and will help establish confidence in the public welfare work of the city.

### Ryan Not to Act

Wholesale refusals of renewals of automobile licenses and registrations to persons on the public welfare rolls is not contemplated at the present time by Registrar of Motor Vehicles Morgan T. Ryan. Explaining statements he made Saturday in an address before the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association at Swansea, Ryan said that such action would require much more money and many more employees than the registry now has.

"In certain instances which have come directly to my attention," he said, "I have had opportunity to question applicants regarding their sources of income. There have been cases where those seeking to get their licenses returned admitted brazenly and without hesitation that their only source of income was municipal aid. In these specific cases I have seen fit to withhold their licenses to drive."

One of the most colorful transatlantic sailings out of Boston in years was the departure from Commonwealth Pier yesterday of the motorship *Saturnia*, for the Azores and Mediterranean ports. More than 1000 passengers left on the ship, and as she moved out into the stream, they lined the rails and filled in the deck spaces forward and aft, to witness the spectacular water display by two fireboats. Assembled on the end of the pier was the Firemen's Band, giving the liner a musical sendoff.

### OLYMPIC TEAM SAILS

A host of celebrities left on the ship for Europe. The Italian Olympic team, 75 strong, headed by Caesar Gratarola, their captain, who made such a splendid showing at the recent Olympiad at Los Angeles, took passage for home. About 30 of the original group, including Luigi Beccali, new world record holder in the 1500-metre run, remained for short stays before returning to Italy. Beccali, who became one of the outstanding athletes by his marvellous performance, stopped off in Chicago to participate in an amateur meet in that city.

Just before the *Saturnia* sailed, the members of the team were summoned to the liner's beautiful gold room, and there, in the presence of a large crowd, their leader was presented a loving cup on behalf of the city of Boston, with Joseph A. Tomaselio representing Mayor Curley, and another by Acting Consul Silvio Vitale, for the Italian citizens of Boston.

### Each Given Picture

Each man also received a framed picture of George Washington in colors. Judge Frank Leveron, of the Juvenile Court, who presided; Mr. Tomaselio and Mr. Vitale, all praised the prowess of the team and its achievements at Los Angeles.

Taking passage on the *Saturnia* were Dr. John W. Spellman and Dr. Martin H. Spellman, brothers of the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Francis J. Spellman, recently appointed auxiliary bishop of Boston. With their wives, they are going to Rome to witness the consecration of Bishop Spellman in the Vatican Sept. 8.

Also in this group were Fire Commissioner Edward F. McLaughlin and Mrs. McLaughlin, John P. Englert, superintendent of public buildings here; Thomas A. O'Connell, publisher, and the Very Rev. Michael J. Owens, pastor of St. John's Church, Quincy.

### Large Group at Pier

A large group of relatives and friends of the Spellman family, including many priests, classmates of the new bishop, came to bid them good-by as they left.

Others on board were the Rev. P. J. McCarthy, of Prince Rupert, B. C., who has been the guest of P. J. Finn and family, in Arlington; Dr. George L. Walton, Miss Alice B. Gould, Mrs. Henry P. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred R. Ghilioni, Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. McMurry, all of Boston; James H. M. Campbell, of Hartford, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Osborn, Miss Nancy Ann Osborn, of Brockton, and Mrs. R. G. Duval, of Newport.

Milo Rhodi, 32, a convict, who recently completed a term at Wethersfield State Prison in Connecticut, was one of 30 persons deported on the *Saturnia*. Rhodi escaped from the Immigration station in East Boston Thursday night, but was recaptured in Providence next morning.

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# CUMMINGS ASKS MULVEY RETIRE

Calls on Curley to Withdraw Him in Race for Court Clerk

## DWELLS ON NEED OF UNITED PARTY

John J. Cummings, president of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Club of Massachusetts, yesterday called on Mayor Curley to withdraw City Registrar James J. Mulvey from the contest for the Democratic nomination for clerk of the superior criminal court in order to insure harmony in the Boston Democracy for the November election.

"Victory in November in Massachusetts for the Democratic party depends upon an absolutely undivided Democracy in Boston," Mr. Cummings declares in an open letter to the mayor dated yesterday. "It seems to me that we cannot afford a bitter contest for the office of clerk of the superior criminal court."

Mr. Cummings said in his letter that his acquaintance with Prendible is only casual and that his interest is only party unity. He added:

It is well known of course that Mr. Prendible and his supporters were ardent and enthusiastic Smith men. Registrar Mulvey and his followers, like ourselves, were equally ardent in their support of Gov. Roosevelt.

I need not point out to a mind as politically astute as yours that if this contest is permitted to go to a finish there are bound to be some sore spots.

There is little doubt that Registrar Mulvey would pay a great deal of heed to your advice and might quit the fight in the interest of harmony if you so advised, as it is generally believed that he is your candidate in view of the fact that his managers are Senator Michael J. Ward and School Committeeman Maurice Tobin.

It does not strike me that this would be much of a sacrifice for Mr. Mulvey to make as he is now holding down a city job which pays \$6000 a year, only a few hundred less than that of the office which he is now seeking.

There is another grave objection to Mr. Mulvey's candidacy. He is not a lawyer whereas Mr. Prendible is a member of the Massachusetts bar, who has served seven years either as assistant or as clerk. Moreover, it is to be noted that upon the death of John R. Campbell, Mr. Prendible was selected by the justices of the superior court as the man best qualified to hold the position.

It is a position of great importance, of great responsibility; it requires familiarity not only with

the multitude of statutes relating to criminal procedure, but also a profound acquaintance with common law forms which are not embodied in our statute law.

It follows, therefore, that no one but a well-trained lawyer is adequately qualified to perform the duties of this office.

When Mr. Mulvey, who is not a lawyer, sought the office of clerk of the superior criminal court against the late lamented John R. Campbell, he was defeated.

The people showed their sound sense by electing Mr. Campbell who had served in the office in a subordinate capacity for 40 years and who, like Mr. Prendible, had been selected by the judges because of his character, knowledge and experience.

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## WORD ABOUT CURLEY BRINGS A REPRIMAND

Sanford Democrat Tells Town Meeting of Rally

Special Dispatch to the Globe

SANFORD, Me., Aug 22—Asking permission to speak at a special town meeting attended by 1000 persons in Town Hall tonight, Charles E. Valley, a local Democratic leader, announced that Mayor James M. Curley of Boston would deliver a political address at the hall Saturday evening.

When Mr. Valley returned to his seat Moderator John H. Southam, Republican, who had given him permission to speak, announced that he had supposed Mr. Valley intended to discuss one of the articles under consideration at the meeting. He said that if he had known the nature of Mr. Valley's announcement he would have withheld permission for him to speak.

The meeting appropriated \$3500 for poor relief, the sum to be taken from the general fund. It also voted to raise \$21,500 by a temporary loan, also for purposes of poor relief. The meeting was the most largely attended in the history of the town.

Col. Henry C. Breckinridge of New York, personal counsel for Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, will speak at a Democratic picnic and rally at Lake Ossipee at 1 p.m. Saturday. The picnic will be held at the Summer home of Joseph E. F. Connolly, Portland attorney and Democratic candidate for the House of Representatives.

## HERALD CURLEY GETS ONLY \$5000 FOR BUREAU

Although Mayor Curley asked \$15,000, the city council yesterday voted only \$5000 to finance the municipal employment bureau. In his order the mayor declared John J. Shields, director of the bureau, and other employees are now serving without pay. The money will run the bureau 10 weeks longer.

## JOB BUREAU

# GETS \$5000

## City Council Grants It New Lease of Life

Operating without funds since last Friday, the Municipal Employment Bureau was granted a new lease of life for 10 more weeks yesterday when the City Council appropriated \$5000 to meet its payroll of \$500 a week for 15 staff workers.

The appropriation was adopted with a vote of 17 to 4. City Councillors John F. Dowd of Roxbury, Albert L. Fish and Francis E. Kelly of Dorchester and Clement A. Norton of Hyde Park voted against the order.

## \$13,000 FOR BLAST VICTIMS

## Council Approves West Roxbury Payments

Payment of \$13,000 damages to the 39 victims of the West Roxbury dynamite explosion which two months ago shattered the houses at Edgemere road and Hinsdale road was approved yesterday by the City Council without a dissenting vote.

All but one of the 39 owners have already agreed to take the settlements offered by Mayor Curley, who pointed out that there was no legal responsibility resting upon the city in the case, yet the municipality owed its residents some redress as a moral obligation.

The dynamite was owned by a contractor who was installing sewers for the city.

## HERALD CURLEY HOLDS ALOOF IN COURT CLERK FIGHT

Mayor Curley yesterday declared neutrality in the contest between William M. Prendible, the incumbent, and City Registrar James J. Mulvey for the Democratic nomination for clerk of the superior criminal court.

The mayor announced his purpose to refrain from expressing a preference as a result of an appeal by John J. Cummings for interference by the mayor which would result in the withdrawal of Mulvey's candidacy.

"The time limit for withdrawals expired last Friday," commented the mayor. "It is not my purpose to take any part in this contest."

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ashed welfare boards and vested control in a single official, Sullivan said such a system in Boston would result in full time supervision and probably a 10 per cent saving in expenditures.

The advisory board Sullivan proposes would be made up of one representative from the following organizations, Family Welfare Society, Catholic Charitable Bureau, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Federated Jewish Charities and the Boston Provident Association.

#### SUPPORT FOR PROPOSAL

Support of this plan was forthcoming from an attache of the finance commission, who, asking that his name be withheld, predicted that as a result of the widespread discussion of the efficiency of the welfare department, legislation will be enacted next year providing for a commissioner. He said:

There has been chaos in the department for more than two years. Secretary McCarthy (of the welfare department) thinks he runs the department. He don't. The overseers think they run it. They don't. The visitors run the department and any one who investigates only casually will quickly realize that the visitors are in control.

There are so-called paymasters in the welfare department receiving \$19 a week in salary who are passing out from \$5000 to \$10,000 weekly to recipients of aid. From this \$19 these paymasters contribute one day's pay a month to the unemployment relief fund. Actually, they are passing out more money a week to some recipients who are unemployed than they receive themselves for working.

It will not be until there is a radical reorganization and the placing of a salaried commissioner in absolute control of the department that the chaos which exists will be supplanted by a semblance of efficiency.

One of the first convictions arising from the police welfare investigation was that of Frank Delice, widower who has received \$5 weekly for two years for the support of his four children, although they have been cared for by relatives in Brockton and are now state charges.

Although charged with a statutory offence and being idle and disorderly, Delice's arrest grew out of the visit to his home at 3 Percival place, East Boston, of Patrolman Peter F. McCoy, investigating relief cases. Delice was found with a woman, beside a tub of home-brew. He appealed his sentence of one year, as did the woman an indeterminate sentence to Sherborn reformatory.

Three Dorchester men who have been living on the city, but who have spent their relief funds for liquor, were given a year's probation yesterday in Dorchester district court by Judge Richard M. Walsh, who advised the trio to look for jobs. The men, charged with drunkenness, will not receive further aid.

Three prosecutions, based on evidence obtained independent of the police by the public welfare department, were begun in municipal court, when Judge Elijah Adlow issued warrants charging Mario Mazzotti of 57 Hull street with the larceny of \$236, Albert Mizhere of Harrison avenue with the larceny of \$316 and Mrs. Catherine Glynn of 7 Leonard street, Dorchester, with the larceny of \$285. All three are alleged to have had bank accounts of more than \$1000 each.

## FIN. COM. CALLS IT SCANDAL

### Says Traffic Signal Manufacturer Fa- vored by City

The Boston Finance Commission, in a report made public last night by Chairman Frank A. Goodwin, characterised as a "scandal" the alleged "favoritism" shown by the city towards a single traffic signal manufacturer to the exclusion of lower bidders.

#### CLAIMS LOSS OF \$1200

A loss of \$1200 to the taxpayers was protested by the commission in the recent purchase of equipment for the extension of the Tremont street unit from Broadway to Massachusetts avenue, because the lowest bid was rejected and the order given to the Signal Service Corporation at a price of \$900.

This firm and its parent corporation, the American Gas Accumulator Company, have been given seven signal light contracts since January, 1928, though it had been the low bidder in only one case, the Finance Commission complained.

Responsibility for the awarding of the contracts to this firm was placed by the Finance Commission upon John F. Hurley, traffic engineer of the Boston Traffic Department since it was established.

#### "Queer Decision"

The report contended that the companies represented in the bidding were all of major financial standing, which agreed to file certified checks and bonds to guarantee that their apparatus would do the work required.

"Yet, the bid of the Crouse Hinds Company of Syracuse, N. Y., a large manufacturer of signal equipment, was rejected on the ground that the Traffic Commission's engineer was not satisfied that the apparatus to be furnished would do the work for the city. This queer decision by the traffic engineer will cost the taxpayers at least \$1200," protested the Finance Commission.

#### Hurley Gives His Reason

Traffic Engineer Hurley retorted last night that the difference in the two bids was nearer \$50. "We were not en-

ting to take the chance of burning out every traffic signal in the city for \$500," replied the traffic engineer. "We are using standard equipment and are not going to risk the entire system by adding to the already established system a short extension that would not work. Our central control board at fire alarm headquarters costs \$14,000 alone and we were not going to take a chance of blowing that out for \$500."

This is the second time that the Finance Commission has criticised the purchase of traffic signal equipment. Two years ago it staged a long battle with the traffic engineer in a drive for his removal.

#### Asks Fin. Com. Probe Land Buying

The Finance Commission contended that the bid of the Signal Service Corporation should have been rejected because the firm failed to file a wiring diagram as required by the specifications. Such diagrams were filed by the other bidders.

On motion of Councillor Clement A. Norton of Hyde Park, the City Council voted to approve the publication of the Finance Commission report in the City Record, the municipal weekly.

He also secured the passage of an order requesting the Finance Commission to investigate the recent purchase of a firehouse site at Huntingdon avenue opposite the Art Museum, contesting that \$61,000 was an excessive price, in view of the fact that the assessed value was \$36,000. Councillor Norton contended that the land was not worth over \$12,000.

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# Fin Com Hits Favoritism In Award of City Contracts

Calls on Curley to Restore Actual Competition—  
Charges Low Bidders Ignored, Citing  
Traffic Signal Firm's Preference

Mayor Curley was called on yesterday by the finance commission to substitute actual competition for municipal contracts for the existing system of competition "which has discouraged bidders and maintained a policy of favoritism supported only by excuses."

For the third time since Nov. 7, 1931, the commission, in a report featured by vigorous phraseology in condemnation of the practice of ignoring low bidders of acknowledged responsibility, informed the mayor that the policy of "advertising for competition and then disregarding the result will make no progress toward the goal of a successful and economical purchasing system."

The commission concentrated its criticism on the preference which has been consistently shown in the purchase of automatic traffic signal equipment to the American Gas Accumulator Company and its successor under unchanged ownership—the Signal Service Corporation, but paid some attention to the ignoring of the lowest bidder in the award of the contract for flour.

#### DECRIES SYSTEM

The report charged that instead of ignoring the bid of the Signal Service Corporation because of failure to comply with requirements of the specifications, the supply department, which has been assailed previously for recognizing this concern, unwarranted gave it preference with the approval of the mayor.

The commission decried the system which compels contractors and merchants, believing that they are competing legitimately, to disclose their prices in public competition, only to be brushed aside when they are low bidders "for excuses that are distinctly not reasons."

As illuminating proof of the basis for its conclusions that there is no legitimate competition for traffic signal equipment, the commission emphasized in its report, the facts about the bids on equipment which were received June 7.

The Signal Service Corporation was the second highest among five bidders and its quotation of \$17,936.50 was almost twice the bid of \$9211 offered by the Eagle Signal Corporation and in contrast with the bid of \$9582 submitted by the Crouse-Hinds Company which has previously been ignored in similar awards. Between January, 1928 and February, 1932 six contracts for signal equipment have been awarded to the American Gas Accumulator Company although in but one instance was its bid the lowest.

#### NEW BIDS OPENED

In the consideration of the five bids submitted in June, all were apparently rejected but no such notice was given bidders. New bids were opened July 7 and the Signal Service Corporation presented five different prices ranging from \$7852 to \$17,936 while the Eagle Company held at \$9211, but Crouse-Hinds Company cut its offer to \$8408.

The finance commission offers vigorous objection to what was characterized as an indefensible act. Though the specifications demanded that each bidder submit a wiring diagram to show how its apparatus functioned the Signal Service Corporation was the only bidder which failed to comply.

"Ordinarily," the report says, "this would mean that the bid was irregular and the city would reject it, because it offered the city no opportunity to check up the apparatus. To make this lapse more aggravating, the Signal Service Corporation submitted five different prices for complying with the specification with absolutely no information as to what caused the difference in prices or what it would do for one that it would not do for another."

The commission found reason to complain that as the other bidders had filed their wiring diagrams, they publicly disclosed how their apparatus worked while the Signal Service Corporation was permitted to keep undisclosed its method of wiring.

The bid of the Crouse-Hinds Company was rejected because Traffic Engineer Hurley was "not satisfied that the apparatus to be furnished would work for the city. A similar excuse was given to explain the rejection of the two lowest prices for which the Signal Service Corporation offered to furnish the apparatus. This queer decision by the traffic engineer will cost the taxpayers at least \$1200.

"The commission believes this continued favoring of the Signal Service Corporation, heretofore known as the American Gas Accumulator Company, to the exclusion of other responsible dealers, constitutes a scandal. The commission cannot understand how the bid offered in this last competition could be considered since it lacked one of the most important requirements," to which this comment was added: "The city authorities are constantly rejecting bids for less cause."

In complaining about the award at a cost of approximately \$1000 in excess of the lowest price of the flour contract, the commission cited this instance as another example of disregard of the interests of the taxpayers.

Mayor Curley has defended his action on the ground that he took care that the highest grade of flour was purchased for use in the hospitals and other municipal institutions.

rare cases investigated by police are to be sent to Commissioner Hultman within the week, after which it is expected he will make known the position of his department in a statement.

7—For the first time this year a decrease in the number of applicants for aid in Lynn was recorded.

8—In Cambridge police inquiry continued to disclose evidence of relief frauds, and at the same time the methods of the investigating officers was criticised by a charitable organization.

#### COUNCIL VOTE IS 17 TO 3

The vote of the city council for holding off investigation of the city's welfare administration was 17 to 3, this decision committing a special council committee of seven members to dormancy pending completion of the police investigation. An hour's oratory preceded the vote.

Several councilmen, including Joseph McGrath, and Clement A. Norton of Hyde Park, in the course of the debate declared their intention to continue to send those claiming to be in need to the welfare department contending it is their "duty" to do so.

McGrath made this statement while he was arguing against the order to have the special committee immediately investigate welfare administration, an inquiry which he said might be construed as an attempt to interfere with the current police investigation.

McGrath described the benefits to the work of the welfare department which will be obtained with the compilation of statistics of all places of residences in the city and of all car owners in these places. Hereafter, he said, it will be impossible for applicants for public aid to select vacant lots, garages and laundries as places of residence, or to conceal that they or their relatives possess automobiles.

Councilman Norton disclosed during the debate that he had written more letters to the welfare department, in behalf of applicants for aid, than any of his colleagues, and declared he would continue to do so, although asserting that one in every 10 of the recipients of aid is a fraud. The only councilmen who sought to force the order for investigation through the council were David M. Brackman of Roxbury and Thomas Burke and Francis E. Kelly of Dorchester.

After the investigation had been delayed Burke filed an order asking the mayor to appoint an unpaid committee to determine the advisability of decentralizing the welfare department, by the establishment of offices in at least six districts in the city.

Norton offered an order asking the mayor to confer with the welfare overseers about decentralization, to which he added an order, frowned upon by the overseers a few weeks ago, that 500 permanent city employees, not overburdened with duties in their regular departments, be transferred temporarily to the welfare department as investigators.

The move to abolish the present method of control of the welfare department by a board of overseers and place responsibility in a commissioner of public welfare, was made by Representative Lewis R. Sullivan of Dorchester, in a bill he filed in the House of Representatives.

The bill provides for an annual salary of \$7500 for the commissioner and an unpaid advisory board, to serve for the term of the mayor. Pointing out that recently New York city, Chicago, St. Louis and a large number of Connecticut cities and towns have abol-

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## GOV. ELY AND MAYOR SHAKE HANDS



One of the rare occasions since the recent presidential primary campaign in which Mayor Curley and Gov. Ely, opposing leaders during the campaign, have shaken hands, is shown in the above photograph. The incident, unposed, occurred last night at a Democratic harmony meeting in Faneuil Hall. The mayor is shown greeting the Governor on the latter's arrival.

## LEADERS AT DEMOCRATIC ASSEMBLY



Mayor Curley is shown addressing the gathering. Seated at the left is Gov. Ely with Chairman Joseph A. Maynard of the state delegation in the center.

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men John J. Douglass and John W. McCormack, Gov Joseph B. Ely last night urged "the cause of Democracy in the State and national ticket." The Governor did not mention Roosevelt or Garner by name, but said he had derived pleasure from hearing the eloquent pleas for the national ticket by other speakers.

His 25-minute address at the rally at Faneuil Hall came a few minutes after the Congressmen and Mayor had spoken. When he entered the hall, Mayor Curley was seated on the platform and when the wild applause quieted, the Mayor and the Governor shook hands. The crowd roared its approval of the apparent reconciliation of the leaders of the Smith and Roosevelt forces in this State.

### Curley Strikes at Mills

Mayor Curley lashed Secretary of the Treasury Ogden Mills for attacking Roosevelt and declaring that Herbert Hoover was qualified to be President. He made a vigorous appeal for Gov Roosevelt on the ground of his record in New York and the courageous type of leadership that he has shown thus far.

In his conclusion, he mentioned Gov Ely, saying, "At the Chicago convention the faith of the Democracy of the Nation in this splendid executive and brilliant leader of men was attested when more than 40 States of the Nation, with substantially all of the territories, recording their votes in his favor as party nominee.

"The American people have not looked in vain to the Democracy for a leader to restore opportunity in this Nation of ours, and we in Massachusetts should deem it not only a privilege but a duty to record our votes in the November election for the standard-bearers of Democracy, Franklin D. Roosevelt and John N. Garner for Vice President and the Democratic State ticket headed by Gov Joseph B. Ely. We have the candidates and the issues. The duty of the hour is to induce every voter to register and in November we will be victorious."

### Congressmen Praise Garner

Congressmen McCormack and Douglass were forceful in their praise of Garner as Speaker and as a friend to them in the House of Representatives. McCormack took Congressman A. Piatt Andrew to task for what he called a "distortion of the truth" about Garner's desire for an investigation of the Treasury Department. Douglass said that he had followed Garner's leadership and had never found it wrong.

When the Governor was introduced the crowd waited expectantly for some word on the national ticket. But the Governor's opening phrase, "When I motored down from the sticks," set them roaring and he then proceeded to tell how he came to the meeting with the expectation that it would concern registration and organization, and he wanted to learn how it was done.

"I am glad I came here because I've heard the cause of Democracy in the State and national ticket very eloquently and persuasively pleaded. I am glad I am here that I may be permitted to say that from every appearance I think that the Democracy of Massachusetts is united this year in behalf of the Democratic ticket.

### Ely Ridicules G. O. P. Plank

"I am glad that I came here to hear from the members of the national

House these intimate and pleasing relations that exist between them and the Democratic candidate for Vice President. I was pleased to hear the Mayor touch on the ridiculous situation that now exists so far as the Republican ticket is concerned, with a platform on prohibition that permits any Republican to be wet or dry. What better proof could there be of the situation than that the President is wet and the Vice President is dry."

He ridiculed the Republican platform and said: "There's one thing we did at Chicago that they can never take away from us." There was applause and cheers. "I don't know whether you mean the same thing I do. We wrote into that platform a plank on prohibition that calls for the repeal of the 18th amendment. They tell us it may not be repealed, but it has made the President of the United States wet."

He next ridiculed a candidate for Governor on the "Prohibition Repeal" ticket, saying that he himself was the best prohibition repeal candidate there could be.

### Wants More Voters Here

Gov Ely said the figures on registration interested him and he wanted to see 50,000 voters put on the lists in Boston. He said that he understood that if "every candidate for Representative would bring a friend to be registered, that might be enough." When the laughter subsided he said that the great number of candidates was all right because strong, young leadership is needed now.

"Public interest demands, the needs of humanity require men in positions of trust in the State and Nation whose minds are right and whose hearts are also right," said the Governor.

"If we may pass back to registration, if the State is to remain Democratic by that margin of comfort that we so much desire, we have to work and organize. Put those names on the list that ought to be there.

"I'm glad I came down here. This is not the start of a campaign. It is the beginning of a fight. I presume, as it develops in all its phases, as we begin to discuss the issues, we shall meet again. I hope it will be a cooler night."

### John F. Reports on West

When the Governor finished, Joseph A. Maynard, chairman of the Democratic State Committee, announced that the meeting was over. The Governor stopped to chat with friends, and Mayor Curley, after talking with Congressman McCormack for a moment, left the stage.

The meeting did not get under way until about 8:45 and Mayor Curley arrived as ex-Mayor John F. Fitzgerald was about to speak. The Mayor got a big hand, but Gov Ely had the wildest reception when he came in.

Fitzgerald suggested that everybody sing, "Hail! Hail! The Gang's All Here" when the Mayor arrived and there was much applause. Fitzgerald said that his trip to the West had convinced him that Roosevelt would carry those States easily. He pleaded for more registration of Democrats in Massachusetts and then launched into an attack upon Coolidge, Hoover and Mellon for their part in the stock market boom and depression.

Mary H. Ward, national committee member, the next speaker, said that the candidates should appreciate the "women element" and make constructive campaigns for nomination on the Democratic ticket. When she referred to Gov Ely as "Presidential timber" there was much applause and she closed by saying, "He's not a bandwagon jumper. But when he jumps, he stays put. We'll win with him."

### Douglass Recalls Old Schism

Mr Maynard said that Congressmen Granfield and Connery were unable to be present and introduced Congressman Douglass. Douglass recalled the nomination of Grover Cleveland and how bitterness over that nomination was healed by true Democrats. He said that he had no apologies to make for the acts of Democrats in Congress under the leadership of Speaker Garner and attacked the men who he said were making a "whispering campaign" against Garner.

Congressman McCormack said that Speaker Garner had made Douglass chairman of the Committee on Education and had sent men to the committee who would block the Department of Education bill. He attacked Andrew's statement and said that although Speaker Garner was in favor of an investigation of the department some time ago, he held it in abeyance this year because of economic conditions, thinking that an investigation might add to the fears of the people. But he did offer to push the investigation when a temporary floor leader of the Republican challenged him to do so, Congressman McCormack said.

The meeting was under the auspices of the Democratic State committee and was intended primarily for candidates for office and active workers in the Democratic ranks. Mr Maynard, opening the meeting, explained the necessity for registration and said that State committee is willing to cooperate and build up the Democratic organization in every community.

Globe

8/23/32

# ELY OMITS NAME OF F. D. AT RALLY

Urges Cause of Democratic Ticket  
After Audience at Faneuil Hall  
Cheers Handshake With Mayor



Two Speakers  
Laud Garner

Congressmen Here  
Both Praise Him

Governor Appeals  
for More Voters

Wants 50,000 New Names  
Put on Rolls in Boston

Rising to climax a Democratic rally which had listened to militant speeches for the Roosevelt-Garner ticket by Mayor James M. Curley and Congress.

# Democrats and G.O.P. in Drive for New Voters

**Former, Trying to "Sell"  
Garner, Prodded by Curley  
to Boost Registration**

By William F. Furbush

As the national campaign gradually gets into its stride, the chieftains of both the Republican and Democratic organizations in Massachusetts are engaging in a lively race to increase the registration of voters. Next to the obviously difficult task of "selling" Speaker John N. Garner, their vice presidential candidate, to an electorate which still holds former Governor Alfred E. Smith close to its heart, the Democrats, with Mayor James M. Curley constantly prodding them into action, are striving to add 50,000 more party voters to their lists in Boston to bring the total here to 300,000, a goal which the mayor insists should be attained.

The Republican organization already has been quietly at work checking carefully with registration organizations in each election district throughout the State to bring out the greatest possible strength for the Hoover-Curtis ticket, and while Boston has not been looked upon as a necessarily fertile field for Republicans, the younger members of the party are making a double-barreled effort to solidify the nucleus already in effect and to increase materially the total now estimated at about 51,000.

Registration was the chief theme of Mayor Curley's discussion last night at a meeting in Faneuil Hall of the numerous Democrats who have qualified to seek nomination for various offices in the coming primaries. Governor Joseph B. Ely, who came in "from the sticks," as he put it, and received an ovation, but whose lack of mention of either Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt or Speaker Garner in his address was eloquent, also expressed interest in registration concerning the mechanics of which he said he was not familiar.

It has been obvious ever since the Democratic convention in Chicago that, while the Bay State Democrats, whose affection for Governor Smith is an outstanding political phenomenon, have been more or less lukewarm toward Roosevelt for President, they have bordered distinctly on the sullen with reference to Garner. They are hesitant in forgiving Garner for throwing his support to Roosevelt in the convention; they still are far from reconciled to the emphasis attached to the fact that Garner failed to go to the telephone at Washington to talk with Smith, then trying to consolidate his stop-Roosevelt movement at the Chicago convention.

Many of the Bay State voters, including some Republicans who were attracted away from their camp back in 1928 by the appeal of Al Smith, are slow in warming up to Garner despite his recently expressed feelings of regard for New England in contrast with his position in the past with relation to this section of the country. The Garner appearance in New York a few days ago and his call on Smith may or may not have been timed by the party chieftains as a gesture to overcome the antipathystump in various sections of the State.

the rank and file of the party, however, are interpreting Garner's visit and utterances as the start of an attempt to ease him into the affections of the electorate in the difficult task of trying to make Roosevelt a beneficiary of the impetus given to the Democratic cause by Smith four years ago.

This objective was at least hinted at last night at the Faneuil Hall meeting when Congressman John W. McCormack of South Boston and John J. Douglass of East Boston took up the cudgels in behalf of Garner and endeavored to portray him as a warm supporter and admirer of Governor Smith in 1928 and as a friend unquestionably of the liberal Democrats in the Bay State, singled out to be one of the hottest battlegrounds in the election in which the Republicans are confident of putting over the Hoover-Curtis ticket.

Joseph A. Maynard, the new chairman of the Democratic State Committee, ranked along with Mayor Curley, former Mayor John F. Fitzgerald and others among the more astute in the party's councils, apparently has sensed that it is all-important to build up Garner in this State. As a participant in the recent conference in New York of New England chairmen with national leaders, he was quick to give out optimistic forecasts after Garner's declaration of his warm regard for New England and in eulogy of Smith, whose strong hold on the Bay State electorate was indicated by the fact that the convention delegates pledged to him swamped the Roosevelt-pledged delegates three to one in the April presidential primaries.

## G.O.P. Encouraged by Outlook

Encouraged by the belief that the selection of the Roosevelt-Garner ticket served more to alienate the Smith following here than to present a continuing lure for those who went Democratic in 1928, the Republicans at once set out to capitalize on the defection and they are confident that, as a result of their immediate missionary work, they have brought back into the fold many who drifted away to Smith. They also feel that large groups of the irreconcilable Smithites will register their discontent by not voting at all, in this way contributing to wiping out the small margin by which Smith carried Massachusetts, which Senator David I. Walsh has repeatedly declared is a normally Republican State.

An additional basis for the Republican optimism is President Hoover's stand for prohibition change. They are smiling, but not wistfully, over Governor Ely's statement last night that the Democratic repeal plank "made the President of the United States wet."

With relation to registration, Mayor Curley a few days ago expressed himself as not satisfied with results to date. He very likely meditates from time to time upon his efforts four years ago when he assumed control in Boston of the Smith campaign and in his one-man leadership and daily forum meetings in Young's Hotel kept the election officials busy recording registrations. Whether the mayor, under the new order of things, which does not find him taking his usual energetic and driving part in individual campaign leadership, may prevail later upon the party councils to allow him to re-establish his forum is problematical.

## Slow in Starting

It is obvious that the drive for the Roosevelt-Garner ticket has not attained the momentum here or elsewhere which marked the Smith preliminaries four years ago. The mayor may become restive upon his return from his September tour of the Western States in behalf of Roosevelt and step into the picture with more vigor and enthusiasm than is called for in the present schedule slating him for the stump in various sections of the State. The meeting last night was one of general harmony, with Governor Ely and Mayor Curley shaking hands in agreement.

curiously in contrast to the bitterness during the presidential primary. The governor indicated again, however, by not mentioning the names of either Roosevelt or Garner, that he was hesitatingly generous when he indorsed the ticket after weeks of reflection on the convention proceedings which turned out so disastrously for Smith and still are keeping him silent when he is asked whether he will take the stump for the man he did not want nominated.

Chap E

## CURLEY IN NEW YORK ON SECRET MISSION

Expected to Confer With  
Campaign Leaders

Mayor Curley did not come to his office at City Hall today, and there it was learned that early today he had decided on a hurried and secret visit to New York. It was learned that the Mayor left Boston this morning bound for New York, accompanied by one of his secretaries, and that it was his intention to be away from Boston today and tomorrow.

It is believed that he planned to confer with those managing the Democratic national campaign in New York today and that tomorrow he would move on to Albany and confer with Gov Roosevelt, the Democratic nominee for President.

RECORD

8/23/32



## Burying Hatchet!

After shaking hands with Gov. Joseph Ely, left, in presence of Chairman J. A. Maynard of State committee, center, and several hundred Democratic candidates for office, Mayor James M. Curley is shown speaking at Democratic meeting for interest of "the ticket" at Faneuil Hall last night.

## ELY OMITS MENTION OF ROOSEVELT AT RALLY

Although he urged the "cause of Democracy in the State and National ticket," Gov. Ely avoided direct reference to his party standard bearers, Roosevelt and Garner, in a 25 minute address at the Democrats' opening rally at Faneuil Hall, last night.

"I am glad I came here because I've heard the cause of Democracy in the State and National ticket very eloquently and persuasively pleaded," he said. "From every appearance, I think the Democracy of Massachusetts is united this year in behalf of the Democratic ticket."

He had been preceded by Mayor Curley, who greeted him warmly on his arrival. Curley, Ely and other speakers assailed the Republican straddle on prohibition.

Mayor Curley and Gov. Ely were centers of a wild demonstration when they clasped hands in the center of the stage. During his address, Curley again urged Ely's re-election.

## Curley in New York to Plan His Trip

Mayor Curley, accompanied by one of his assistant secretaries, James G. Tobin, left for New York this noon to meet the Roosevelt leaders and make further plans for the campaign trip to the Far West next month. He left word that he would be absent today and tomorrow, but be absent today and tomorrow, but would not discuss the visit. It was said, however, that he might visit Governor Roosevelt on his way home.

TRANSCRIPT

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ERALD

8/23/32

# 2 CONGRESSMEN DEFEND GARNER IN FANEUIL HALL

McCormack and Douglass In Drive to Sell Speaker To Democrats Here

## CURLEY AND GOV. ELY SWAP COMPLIMENTS

By W. E. MULLINS

The task of selling Speaker John N. Garner to the Democrats of Massachusetts as their candidate for Vice-President was set in motion last night at Faneuil Hall by Congressmen John W. McCormack of South Boston and John J. Douglass of East Boston.

At a meeting of the numerous candidates who have qualified for places in the party primary election, called for the purpose of stimulating registration, the ballyhoo for Garner stood out conspicuously as his two Boston associates in the House paraded him before the voters as a warm supporter of Alfred E. Smith in 1928 and a true friend of the liberal Democrats in Massachusetts.

Neither Mayor Curley nor Gov. Ely joined in the endeavor to build the speaker up as a desirable candidate. The mayor once mentioned his name in a passing reference while the Governor neglected to mention either Garner or Gov. Roosevelt in his unprepared speech.

McCormack accused Congressman A. Piatt Andrew of Gloucester of a "deliberate distortion" of the facts in charging Garner with the responsibility for attempting to inaugurate an investigation of the federal treasury department. The true facts of the case, as explained by McCormack, were that two Republican members, Congressmen McFadden of Pennsylvania and Michener of Michigan, began the legislative procedure which was steered away from passage eventually by Garner.

More than 400 Democrats braved the heat of the evening to attend the assembly and truthfully speaking there was every surface indication of harmony in the party ranks. Gov. Ely and Mayor Curley, keen rivals for party popularity, sat beside Chairman Joseph A. Maynard and paid warm compliments to each other.

Judge William H. McDonnell, who was charged two years ago with treachery to the Governor, was in the hall.

Both the mayor and the Governor were given warm receptions but only feeble applause greeted the ballyhoo for Garner. The mayor's severe attack on Secretary Ossian Mills and President

Hoover and his eloquent defense of Gov. Roosevelt were heartily applauded.

The Governor took occasion to make veiled charges against unidentified sources in regard to the candidacy of Patrick H. Doherty of Avon, who is seeking the governorship on a "prohibition repeal" ticket.

The Governor, the final speaker, expressed his pleasure at having had the opportunity of hearing the cause of the state and national tickets so eloquently presented and he complimented the mayor for citing the alleged ridiculous position of the Republicans because of the divided sentiment of their leaders on prohibition.

Ignoring Roosevelt and Garner, Gov. Ely lashed out at President Hoover, Vice-President Curtis and the Republican platform for the alleged inconsistencies on prohibition.

The President and the Vice-President, he charged, were engaged in a "complete straddle of a great question." His press conference because of the complete lack would not be surprised, he said, to find sound arguments on the Republican them taking similar positions on other side with which to attack Garner. He planks in the platform before the campaign proceeds much further.

"We did one think at Chicago that Massachusetts instead of on the floor of they cannot take away from us," said the House where the speaker would Gov. Ely. "We wrote a plank on prohibition that calls for repeal of the 18th amendment. They tell us that it will not be repealed, but it made the tacks directed at Roosevelt by Repub-

President of the United States wet." Fitzgerald replied to the numerous at-He directed his fire specifically at Sen-

The Governor said that he had a good idea of the influence whichator Moses of New Hampshire, asking prompted the candidacy of Mr. Doherty. "Where was Moses when the light went on the prohibition repeal platform butout?" in making one sally. He chal-

he declined to identify the source. lenged Moses to deny that Calvin Cool

Other speakers were Chairman Maynard, John F. Fitzgerald and Miss Mary H. Ward, the national committeewoman. Miss Ward's speech was largely to please the numerous candidates to avoid participation in any personalities during the primary lest their intemperate charges provide the Republicans with ammunition during the ensuing election campaign.

### MAYOR'S REMARKS

At the conclusion of his address Mayor Curley announced that he would contribute \$500 to the Democratic city committee to be expended for registration. Two years ago he gave \$1000 for the same purpose.

The mayor declared that the rally conducted six weeks ago in Faneuil hall by the Republicans was a frank admission of the desperate position of their cause in this state. He accused Secretary Mills, on that occasion, of substituting "political expediency for honesty of expression" because of his failure to mention the subject of prohibition during his address.

"This failure," the mayor said, "has made of morals a mockery and of law enforcement a prolific source of corruption" and will result in driving thousands of Republicans into the Democratic ranks.

Intelligent citizens, he continued, represented his "cheap jests" directed at Gov. Roosevelt. The mayor's laudatory address of Roosevelt was largely a repetition of the high lights of the addresses he delivered last April during the presidential primary campaign.

It was noticeable that the mayor did not directly name Alfred E. Smith. In his few references to the former New York Governor the mayor termed him the "1928 candidate for President." He told his audience that the excellence of their candidates and their issues would be meaningless unless they increased registration. He reviewed the 1928 campaign figures as proof of the value of registration, again citing the returns to show that his work in Boston resulted in carrying the state for Smith over Hoover.

### THE CONGRESSMAN

Congressman Douglass said that there was no necessity for apologizing for Garner and expressed the hope that the speaker would come to Boston and convince the Democrats of his loyalty to Smith in 1928. He did not explain the speaker's refusal to speak to Smith over the telephone during the party convention at Chicago.

McCormack, in citing Garner's fairness, said "I stand here frankly and publicly and proudly boast to you that the House committee on education which Douglass is chairman, was deliberately stacked by Speaker Garner against the Smith-Towner bill."

He attacked Congressman Andrew for his alleged distortion of facts in connection with the attempt to pass legislation providing for an investigation of the treasury department. Andrew, he

said, deliberately conveyed a false im-pression because of the complete lack of sound arguments on the Republican them taking similar positions on other side with which to attack Garner. He planks in the platform before the cam-paign proceeds much further. in making the charges back here in

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idge, Sec. Mellon and President Hoover had told the people that stock market prices were not too high "when every intelligent observer knew they were."

### CURLEY SENDS WIRE TO GOV. ROOSEVELT

Mayor Curley yesterday sent a telegram of congratulation on his Columbus address, Saturday to Gov. Roosevelt, which read:

"My dear Roosevelt:  
Your Columbus address comprises a searching, illuminating and well defined expose of the hypocrisy of the Hoover administration's policies relative to the economic questions and the world-wide damage wrought through the policies of negation and vacillation."

AMERICAN

8/23/32

# DEMOCRATIC LEADERS OPEN FIGHT FOR VICTORY



CONG. DOUGLASS GOV. ELY CHAIRMAN MAYNARD

Leaders of the Democratic party in the state headed by Gov. Joseph B. Ely and Mayor James M. Curley opened the fight for a Democratic victory in the Presidential fight this fall at a meeting at Faneuil Hall last night. Congressman John J. Douglass

MAYOR CURLEY CHARLES McGLUE CONG. McCORMACK  
is shown as he addressed the meeting. In his speech he praised the record of John N. Garner. Others on the platform are Gov. Ely, Chairman Joseph A. Maynard, Mayor Curley, Charles McGlue and Congressman John W. McCormack.

## ELY RIDIGULES G. O. P. DRY STRADDLE

Rally at Faneuil Hall Evokes  
Wild Enthusiasm for Entire  
Party Ticket

By BERNARD J. DOHERTY

How Speaker John N. Garner of Texas, Democratic vice-presidential candidate, "stacked" the House committee on education to sidetrack the infamous Smith-Towner bill at the behest of Massachusetts Democratic members of Congress was revealed by Congressman John W. McCormack at a wildly enthusiastic meeting of Democratic candidates for office and city, town and ward committee members in Faneuil Hall.

The meeting, called primarily by Chairman Joseph A. Maynard of

the State Committee for organization and registration purposes, developed into a Democratic love feast with Governor Ely and Mayor Curley leading off with a vigorous handclasp.

### MAYOR GIVES \$500

The mayor received an ovation when he publicly pledged a donation to Chairman Maynard for registration purposes amounting to \$500.

Governor Ely scored heavily with the gathering when he ridiculed the G. O. P. position with President Hoover standing as a wet and Vice-President Curtis standing pat as a dry.

"What better proof could you have of a straddle on this great question?" he asked. "I wouldn't be surprised before the campaign is over if they found some other planks in the platform to take sides on."

Mayor Curley directed some sharp thrusts at the speech of Ogden Mills, secretary of the treasury, made a few weeks earlier, in the same edifice, at the Republican rally.

He declared that Mills' attack on Gov. Roosevelt was made to cloak the short-comings and mistakes of the administration of President Hoover.

### GARNER EULOGIZED

The eulogies of Speaker Garner were started by Congressman John J. Douglass of East Boston.

Douglass related that when he was elected to Congress eight years ago, he was introduced to the present speaker by the late Congressman James A. Gallivan, of South Boston. After that introduction, Douglass said Congressman Gallivan remarked:

"That man, John N. Garner of Texas is one of the ablest men and one of the most liberal spirits in the House. Follow his leadership and you will not go astray."

"Since then," Douglass declared, "I found Gallivan's words to be true."

Congressman McCormack characterized Garner as "a great American." Garner, he said, placed Congressman Douglass in the chairmanship of the committee on education and himself on the committee on ways and means.

As a result of conferences with the Speaker on the old Smith-Towner bill, McCormack related, Garner sent word out that he wanted some six vacancies on the committee on education filled by Democrats who were opposed to the bill.

"The committee was stacked against the iniquitous bill, and that is the reason that you have not been disturbed with it since," he stated.

Globe

8/23/32

TRANSCRIPT

# FIN COM CALLS AWARD SCANDAL.

## Attacks Two Contracts for City Supplies

### Declares Reasons Mayor Gave in Letter Lack Merit

The Finance Commission yesterday released to the press a copy of a communication it had sent to Mayor James M. Curley Aug 5 protesting the continuation of the practice of awarding contracts to other than the lowest bidders without justifiable reason.

The commission said that it considers it bad enough that the taxpayers should be deprived of the opportunity to save approximately \$2200 in two cases mentioned, but a worse result, in the commission's opinion, is the effect that these practices are having on legitimate dealers whose continued competition for city business is necessary to assure the city that it is obtaining good quality at fair prices.

The commission repeated its recommendation that the city seek the greatest competition for its business and award to the lowest bidder unless there is real merit in a reason for doing otherwise.

#### Sees No Merit in Reasons

The commission added that it believed there was no real merit in the reasons given in the two cases reported in the letter of Aug 5.

The Finance Commission communication to the Mayor in part follows:

"Two recent cases that illustrate the methods being followed are the purchase of traffic signal equipment by the Supply Department and the purchase of flour for the city institutions. In both cases wide competition was sought and obtained, but when it came to make the awards the same old favoritism was shown.

"In the case of the traffic signals it is apparent that a group of city officials has determined to prevent any but one favorite concern from getting any opportunity to supply signal equipment to the city. Almost two years ago the Finance Commission protested to Your Honor against favoritism that had extended over a long period of years to the same concern. The reasons given to justify paying higher prices to this concern than the same material could be obtained for from another concern were considered by the Finance Commission to be specious.

"Notwithstanding that protest the Administration has continued to shut out all other competitors. Between January, 1928, and February, 1932, there was competition six times for traffic signal equipment. In all six cases the award was made to the American Gas Accumulator Company, though that company was the low bidder in only one case.

#### Traffic Signal Bids Listed

"On June 7, 1932, bids were received from five concerns for traffic signals

for an extension of Unit 2.  
"Apparently these bids were rejected, but no statement to that effect and no reason for it was given to the bidders. Almost immediately the contract was readvertised and bids were opened on July 7 at which time the following bids were received:

Tokheim Oil Tank & Pump Co.	\$19,554.00
Eazole Signal Corporation	8,211.00
Signal Service Corporation	11,936.50
Signal Service Corporation	11,198.00
Signal Service Corporation	9,091.00
Signal Service Corporation	8,577.00
Signal Service Corporation	7,852.00
Crouse Hinds Company	5,408.46
General Electric Company	11,850.89

"In the above bids, the Signal Service Corporation is the new name of the interests formerly referred to as the American Gas Accumulator Company.

"The Finance Commission believes this continued favoring of the Signal Service Corporation, heretofore known as the American Gas Accumulator Company, to the exclusion of other responsible dealers, constitutes a scandal. The commission cannot understand how the bid offered in this last competition could be considered since it lacked one of the most important requirements. The city authorities are constantly rejecting bids for less cause.

#### Flour Award Is Attacked

"A similar set of circumstances appears in the award of a contract for 5200 barrels of flour to the Washburn-Crosby Company, whose price was approximately \$1000 higher than the lowest bid. The bids were as follows:

Washburn-Crosby Company	\$19,008.08
Jacob Thurman	18,928.00
Star & Crescent Milling Co.	18,498.45
American Flour Company	17,966.52

"The communication from the Finance Commission was answered some time ago," Mayor Curley said last night. "There was nothing wrong about the awarding of the contracts. That has been made clear in the communication to the Finance Commission."

## Attacks Contracts for City Supplies

Protesting the continuation of the practice of awarding contracts to other than the lowest bidders without justifiable reason, the Finance commission releases a communication it had sent to Mayor Curley early in the month, stating that the existing system "has discouraged bidders and maintained a policy of favoritism supported only by excuses."

That there was a loss of \$1200 to the taxpayers in the recent purchase of equipment for the extension of the Tremont street traffic signal unit from Broadway to Massachusetts avenue because the lowest bid was rejected and the order given to the Signal Service Corporation at a price of \$9091, is the commission's charge.

This firm and its parent corporation, the American Gas Accumulator Company, have been given seven signal light contracts since January, 1928, though it had been the low bidder in only one case, the Finance Commission complained.

Responsibility for the awarding of the contracts to this firm was placed by the Finance Commission upon John F. Hurley, traffic engineer of the Boston traffic department since it was established.

The report contended that the companies represented in the bidding were all of major financial standing, which agreed to file certified checks and bonds to guarantee that their apparatus would do the work required.

"Yet, the bid of the Crouse Hinds Company of Syracuse, N. Y., a large manufacturer of signal equipment, was rejected on the ground that the traffic commission's engineer was not satisfied that the apparatus to be furnished would do the work for the city. This queer decision by the traffic engineer will cost the taxpayers at least \$1200," protested the Finance Commission.

Traffic Engineer Hurley retorted that the difference in the two bids was nearer \$500. "We were not going to take the chance of burning out every traffic signal in the city for \$500," replied the traffic engineer. "We are using standard equipment and are not going to risk the entire system by adding to the already established system a short extension that would not work. Our central control board at fire alarm headquarters costs \$14,000 alone and we were not going to take a chance of blowing that out for \$500."

The Finance Commission contended that the bid of the Signal Service Corporation should have been rejected because the firm failed to file a wiring diagram as required by the specifications. Such diagrams were filed by the other bidders.

On motion of Councillor Clement A. Norton of Hyde Park, the city council voted to approve the publication of the Finance Commission report in the City Record, the municipal weekly. He also obtained the passage of an order requesting the Finance Commission to investigate the recent purchase of a firehouse site at Huntington avenue, opposite the Art Museum, protesting that \$61,000 was an excessive price, in view of the fact that the assessed value was \$36,000. Councillor Norton contended that the land was not worth over \$12,000.

POST

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but it was plain that Ely was the idol of those present, and perhaps the most spontaneous outburst which the Mayor brought forth was when he asked for the election of Roosevelt and Garner "and the Democratic State ticket, headed by Governor Joseph B. Ely."

#### Out to Stop 'Whispering'

It was by far the most enthusiastic greeting that Mayor Curley has been given in his own city since his advocacy of the cause of Roosevelt against Smith in the Democratic presidential primaries last April. The whole affair was taken by other leaders of the party present as indicating that, for the purposes of the coming State and national campaigns, at least, the hatchet may be buried by Ely and Curley.

The plea for confidence in the religious and racial tolerance of Garner by Congressmen Douglass and McCormack was interpreted as meaning that from now on every effort will be made by the Democratic organization to dispel the feeling which is being skilfully propagated by Republicans that the candidate for Vice-President was against Alfred E. Smith four years ago. Douglass intimated that Garner will come into Boston during the campaign and expressed confidence that he will be able completely to repudiate the charges against him on that score.

#### Lauds Garner Action

Congressman McCormack declared emphatically that Garner, as Speaker of the House, had "stacked" the committee on education, of which Congressman Douglass is chairman, against the bill to create a department of education within the federal government. The Congressman said that this bill is one which Massachusetts Democrats have opposed most bitterly for years, and that the Speaker's action in naming Douglass as chairman, and by seeing to it that six new Democrats, appointed to fill vacancies on the committee at the recent session, were all men who are in sympathy with the Massachusetts point of view.

#### Denies Andrew's Statement

McCormack also flatly denied statements made by Congressman A. Piatt Andrew, Republican, of Gloucester, to the effect that Garner had taken the floor of the House deliberately to force an investigation of the Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve System.

McCormack said that Garner for years has been in favor of investigating the large rebates which have been allowed to wealthy income tax payers and corporations, but that he opposed any probe at this time because of the danger of upsetting the business situation in the country, and that it was while the House was in committee of the whole, with Garner out of the chair as is usual in such circumstances, that the matter was brought up by Congressman McFadden of Pennsylvania.

Garner was challenged by Michener of Michigan, Republican, McCormack said, and then he retorted that if the Republicans wanted an investigation of the Treasury Department, they could have it. Later, McCormack said, other Republican leaders repudiated Michener's challenge and came to Garner pleading that no investigation be started. McCormack characterized the Andrew version of the matter as a "deliberate distortion of the truth."

Governor Ely's action in stressing as important the entrance of a "Repeal Prohibition Candidate" into the field for Governor on election day furnished the surprise of the night.

#### I am Wondering

"I am wondering what Democratic group influenced such a candidacy," said the Governor. "Am I not a good

enough prohibition repeal candidate for any Democrat? I wonder if any Democrat did organize such a candidacy." Then turning to Chairman Maynard of the State committee, the Governor asked:

"Have you any idea? Well, if you haven't, I have."

There have been rumors for several days that this independent candidacy was being promoted as an offset to the independent prohibition candidates, who are expected to draw votes away from the Republican candidates for President and Governor in the election-day contest.

The Governor made no reference whatever to his advocacy of Smith for President in the convention, but the crowd apparently thought he was about to do so on one occasion, and let loose a roar of applause in apparent anticipation.

#### Made President Wet

"There was one thing we accomplished in Chicago which they can never take away from us," he said, and when the roar from the audience subsided, he said:

"I don't know whether you are thinking of the same thing that I am. We wrote into our platform a plank that calls for repeal of prohibition," and the roar broke out again with renewed force.

"They tell us," the Governor went on, "that it may not be repealed, but it made the President of the United States wet."

"I was interested in the picture which the Mayor placed before you of the Republican platform advocating something about prohibition, the President taking another stand and the Vice-President still another. Isn't that the finest proof possible of a complete straddle again? I wouldn't be surprised if, before the campaign is over, the President and the Vice-President may find some other point in their party platform on which they can take different positions."

#### Calls Mills Speech "Dud"

Mayor Curley characterized the speech of Ogden Mills opening the Republican campaign in Faneuil Hall a few weeks ago as a "dud," intended to deceive the people and to make them forget, if possible, the shortcomings, the mistakes and "the absolute helplessness of the present incumbent of the White House, Herbert Hoover." The Mayor chided Mills for dodging any discussion of prohibition, but said it was necessary for the Secretary of the Treasury to dodge on that matter because of the three-way positions of the party platform, the President and the Vice-President. Curley ridiculed the Mills assertion that Hoover's election is the hope of prosperity for the country, and said that such a statement might carry some force if it were not for the fact that the wheels of industry have been so sharply retarded during the last four years, while bread lines have disgraced America during the same period of time in practically every leading city of the country.

Former Mayor John F. Fitzgerald lauded the Roosevelt declaration for regulation of stock speculation. He said, in part:

"Senator Moses, in a speech at New Hampshire, attempted to belittle the utterances of Governor Roosevelt in his masterly speech in Ohio on Saturday, in which he blamed the Republican leadership largely for the debacle which brought the greatest disaster to millions of Americans ever recorded in history. "The Republican press, I noted, attempted to treat lightly the attacks of Governor Roosevelt.

"In my opinion, the proposals Governor Roosevelt made for federal regulation of the stock exchanges is the most forward step that any candidate for public office can take."

HERALD 8/23/32

## Allows Mayor

\$5000 OF \$15,000

## Council Grants Municipal Employment Bureau 10 Weeks of Life

Another of the leases of life which the city council has periodically granted the municipal employment bureau during the last two years was given yesterday in the form of an appropriation of \$5000 which assures the personnel of salaries for the next 10 weeks.

The council was in no mood to accede to Mayor Curley's recommendation of an appropriation of \$15,000 and but for the personal activity of the mayor which was amplified by a communication in which he lauded the work accomplished by the bureau, no chance existed of approval of any sum to keep the bureau functioning.

Councilman George W. Roberts of the Back Bay was unsuccessful in his effort to cut the appropriation to \$2500 but when he made the amount double that sum 17 voted favorably, with Councilmen Dowd, Fish, Kelly and Norton in opposition.

Globe

## INQUIRY IS DEMANDED IN PURCHASE OF LAND

### Council Asks Fin Com Act in Fire Station Site

Investigation by the Finance Commission of the recent purchase by the city of a site for a fire station in Huntington av., Roxbury, was authorized yesterday by the City Council when it passed an order of Councilor Norton of Hyde Park, calling for such an inquiry.

Norton said that with the city setting up the cry that it must practice economy and even going so far as to cut the allowances to many receiving city aid, it nevertheless recently bought a piece of land for \$61,000 that was assessed for only \$36,000, which in his opinion was worth only \$12,000.

Post

8/23/32

# DEMOCRATS CELEBRATE LOVE FEAST

Curley and Ely Shake  
Hands at Faneuil  
Hall Meeting

PLEDGES TO BOOM  
ROOSEVELT-GARNER

Enthusiasm Is Shown  
for Governor as  
Candidate

## NO MENTION BY ELY OF GOV. ROOSEVELT

In his speech at Faneuil Hall last night Governor Ely did not mention Governor Roosevelt by name at any time during his address. He made frequent references, however, to the national ticket.

BY ROBERT T. BRADY

Upon the stage of historic Faneuil Hall, Governor Joseph B. Ely and Mayor James M. Curley, leaders of recently warring Democratic factions, shook hands last night and in the presence of some 500 or 600 Democratic candidates for office, with Chairman Joseph A. Maynard of the State Committee, smiling as stage manager, declared for party harmony and extra registration work in the interest of "the ticket."

### CURLEY PLEDGES \$500

The Mayor was much more specific in his declarations than was the Governor. In true Curley fashion, he eulogized Roosevelt and Garner, ridiculed Ogden Mills' speech from the same platform a few weeks ago, attacking Roosevelt, definitely urged the re-election of Ely as Governor, and capped it

# Ely and Curley Shake Hands at Love Feast



all with a pledge of \$500 to Chairman Maynard for registration work.

Governor Ely said that he motored down "from the sticks" expecting to hear how to get registration work, with which he confessed unfamiliarity, done, but that he was pleased to hear such eloquent and persuasive pleas for the Democracy, and that it appeared to him, from what he had heard, that the Democrats of Massachusetts are united this year as never before for the success of the ticket. The Governor joined heartily with the Mayor in derision of the spectacle of Hoover standing as a wet and Curtis as a dry, and declared that it is the finest proof possible that the Republican party is engaged again in its fine old sport of straddling on important issues.

### Garner Warmly Praised

To give greater point to the picture of party harmony, Congressmen John J. Douglass of East Boston and John W. McCormack of South Boston indulged in fervid eulogies of John Nance Garner, Democratic candidate for Vice-President, and openly declared that as Speaker of the House Garner had shown himself a liberal on racial and religious questions. The two Congressmen pleaded that members of the party in this State repudiate the whispering campaign against Garner and the allegations

that he was not loyal to Alfred E. Smith in the presidential campaign of 1928.

Governor Ely's only reference to this part of the harmony act was to say that he was extremely pleased to hear from two Congressmen "of the intimate and pleasing relations existing between them and the candidate for Vice-President."

### Ely's Name Warmly Applauded

The Governor devoted the remainder of his speech to criticism of the Hoover and Curtis split on prohibition, made a most earnest appeal for the election of strong men to the Legislature and broadly intimated that Republican influences had put into the field an independent candidate for Governor under the designation of "Prohibition Repeal Candidate," for the purpose of splitting the Democratic vote on election day.

Of course, there was real Democratic enthusiasm among the crowd, which only comfortably filled the floor area of the "Cradle of Liberty." From the opening of the meeting, every mention of Governor Ely's name drew rounds of applause. Mayor Curley was given a most generous greeting when he entered and when he spoke. There was fairly generous applause when Roosevelt and Garner

RECORD 8/24/32

Post

TRANSCRIPT

## CURLEY MAPS 'FORGOTTEN' MAN PROGRAM

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Walsh conferred with James A. Farley, Democratic national chairman, for about six hours and announced himself eager "to do anything you think will help bring us victory."

Walsh will take part in the



**Mayor Curley** **David I. Walsh**  
Maine state campaign and will return to national headquarters after Labor Day to aid in the New England campaign?

Mayor Jaes Curley, of Boston, came to headquarters to map his stumping tour of the West and listen to the pre-view of a "talkie" he has made on the "Forgotten Man."

The "Forgotten Man" became a contributor to the Roosevelt-Garner campaign during the day. Several letters bearing that signature and enclosing dollar bills were received at the Democratic headquarters.

## MAYOR APPROVES EAST BOSTON LAND TAKING

Mayor Curley today approved the request of the School Buildings Department for the taking of 7500 feet of land in the vicinity of Saratoga st., East Boston, for an addition to the Joseph H. Barnes public school in East Boston.

## TWO WEST ROXBURY STREETS ARE ACCEPTED

Mayor Curley today announced the acceptance of two West Roxbury streets—West Saville and Winslow. The betterment assessments will amount to about \$2700 in each case.

## W. ROXBURY CONTRACTOR GETS ASPHALT JOBS

Mayor Curley today approved the award for laying sheet asphalt on four streets to Charles Capone, West Roxbury contractor, who estimated cost of \$23,086.12, was the lowest of 11 bids with a variance of about \$2000. The streets are Glenhaven road, Ward 20; Bowditch road, Ward 19; Beech st., Ward 18, and Bismarck st., West Roxbury.

## WALSH IN NEW YORK

Senator in Conference With Farley Offers Full Aid in National Campaign—May See Smith Before He Leaves City or on Return in September

NEW YORK, Aug. 23 (AP)—Another of "Al" Smith's pre-convention supporters, Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, threw himself actively behind Governor Roosevelt's presidential campaign today.

Walsh conferred with James A. Farley, Democratic national chairman, for about six hours, and announced himself eager "to do anything you think will help bring us victory."

At the same time he said "disappointment" in New England over "the failure of the convention to nominate former Governor Smith" is "gradually disappearing."

Senator Walsh said he hoped to see the 1928 nominee either before he leaves the city this time or when he returns in September.

Walsh will take part in the Maine State campaign, and will return to national headquarters after Labor Day to aid in the New England campaign as a member of the campaign advisory committee.

Mayor James M. Curley of Boston came to headquarters to map his stumping tour of the West and listen to a pre-view of a "talkie" he has made on the "forgotten man."

## TRAVELER ANACONDA WANTS SPEECH BY CURLEY

Mayor Curley today received a telegram from J. D. Kelley, chairman of the Democratic central committee of Butte, Mont., expressing hope that the mayor would add Anaconda to his schedule, which calls for a speech in Butte, Sept. 8.

## AWARD CONTRACT FOR PAVEMENTS

A contract for \$23,086 was awarded today to Charles Capone for the laying of street asphalt pavement in Glen Haven road, West Roxbury; Beach street, in Hyde Park, and Bismarck street, in Roxbury. The mayor approved acceptance as public ways of Winslow street and West Saville street, West Roxbury, with betterment assessments.

### Curley Speech Set Ahead

SANFORD, Me, Aug 23—The Democratic rally at which Mayor James M. Curley of Boston is to be the speaker, which was arranged for Saturday evening, has been set ahead one day and will be held at Sanford Town Hall, Friday evening.

## Curley's "Talkie" Pleases Roosevelt

Mayor Curley received a telephone call from Governor Roosevelt this noon congratulating him on his "talkie" film, "The Unknown Man," and informing him that he had directed that it be used extensively in the campaign. The governor said he had witnessed a production of it and was surprised at the clarity of dictation and considered it a most valuable feature for his campaign.

The mayor also talked to Democratic campaign headquarters in New York City with reference to a telegram he had received from J. D. Kelley, chairman of the Democratic Central Committee of Butte, Mont., asking that he visit Anaconda, Mont., while in Butte, and speak in the largest smelting camp in the world. New York saw no objection to adding another speaking engagement to the itinerary as published.

## City's Registration Goes Ahead Fast

Registration is proceeding rapidly in Boston. Yesterday 926 men and 659 women were added to the lists, the mayor claiming that the acceleration was the result of the Democratic meeting in Faneuil Hall, Monday night. Today the various registration places are also thronged. The mayor issued a statement warning the public that only seven registration days remain before the primaries and that every person whose name is not on the list should betake himself to the nearest station in the wards without delay.

AMERICAN

## Curley's New Talkie Delights Roosevelt

National politics kept Mayor Curley busy again today. Returning from New York with James A. Farley, campaign manager, the mayor received a telephone call from Gov. Roosevelt at Albany and another from Farley.

Roosevelt said that last night he witnessed a preview of the Curley talking picture, "The Forgotten Man," and was delighted with it, and had arranged to have it shown in all sections of the nation before election day, Nov. 8.

## Invite Curley to Speak

The Democratic central committee of Anaconda, Mont., a community of 16,000 persons, only a short distance from Butte, today invited Mayor Curley to visit their city on September 8. The mayor is scheduled to speak in Butte on that date.

## MONTANA DEMOCRATS ASK CURLEY TO VISIT THEM

Mayor Curley said today that he had received a telegram from J. D. Kelley, chairman of the central Democratic committee of Anaconda, Mont., urging him to pay the committee a visit when he stops off in Butte, Sept. 8, for a speaking engagement.

Post 8/24/32

HERALD 8/24/32

# HULTMAN TO SET COURSE ON WELFARE

## Action in Cases of Fraud to Be Fixed Today

Boston police action against welfare frauds will be placed squarely up to Commissioner Hultman this morning, when the first official report on 500 cases will be placed in his hands. It is expected that, in the cases where investigation shows fraud, the cases will be taken right into court. No estimate of this number could be made, but it is believed it will be large.

### CITY-WIDE SEARCH

This was the highlight of a day in which the dole difficulties were occupying the interest of officials and citizens of many cities and towns. Boston police inaugurated a citywide search last night for a South Boston man who is wanted for racketeering in welfare cards.

Joseph Cocciotto, 22, of West Sixth street, South Boston, appeared at the city wood yard in South Boston to work. He was given a broom and asked to show his card. He dropped the broom and ran, and was caught by Patrolman James McAfee and at the City Point station the card was found made out in the name of a bootlegger. He told police the bootlegger had several of these cards under different names and was letting them out for a certain percentage of the money earned.

### Collects on Cards

The amount of time spent in work is punched on the card and the applicant collects for the work. According to police, the bootlegger loaned out the cards and collected the money.

Attorney William H. Taylor, member of the Board of Overseers of the Public Welfare, last night denied a published report that police investigation was being delayed because of the absence from the city of Welfare officials who are on vacation. He said the board was supplying new cases for investigation as fast as the police desired them.

He said there was perfect harmony between the two departments, that 11 of the 12 unpaid overseers were on duty and that Chairman Simon E. Hecht would return from a short vacation tomorrow.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Hale Power said last night that court action against the fakers in six additional cases would be taken up within a few days.

### THE UNSPOKEN NAME

His Honor went His Excellency one better at the inspiration meeting of the aspiring democracy in Faneuil Hall. Mayor Curley made one incidental reference to vice-presidential candidate John N. Garner, and that was one more than Gov. Ely's score. If there had been any community chorusing in the old place, ex-Mayor Fitzgerald would probably have sternly suppressed his impulse to warble Sweet Adeline and would have led in a local version of that old home-and-hearth favorite:

"There's a name that's never spoken,  
And a Governor's heart that's broken,  
And a picture turned toward the wall."

Nor did His Excellency choose to mention Franklin D. Roosevelt. This reluctance to go the full distance for the nominee and the failure to whoop it up for Speaker Garner are fairly typical of the attitude of thousands of Democrats in Massachusetts. They wanted Smith or Ritchie or Baker or almost anybody but Roosevelt nominated. The circumstances attending the defeat of Smith, and the performances of Mr. Garner then and afterward have soured Democrats on the ticket as a whole. The indications now are that the national nominees will be far weaker in Massachusetts than the state candidates, and that the difference between the Roosevelt and Ely totals will be up in the five figures. If the election were to be held in Massachusetts tomorrow, President Hoover would probably carry the state by 50,000 or so.

Conditions in the rest of New England are entirely favorable to Hoover and Curtis. Northern New England is not causing any worry. The Republican campaign in Maine is designed merely to make the Republican majority larger. The outcome itself is not in doubt. Massachusetts and Rhode Island have swung around to their pre-1928 convictions, and it should be remembered that the Smith margin was but 17,000 in Massachusetts and 1500 in Rhode Island.

The factors which gave him the two states are missing now. Not only that, but the Rhode Island voters who were so enthusiastic for him share the resentment of their Massachusetts colleagues at the treatment of their idol in Chicago and the Garner-McAdoo alliance. In Connecticut, which gave Hoover a majority of 44,000, forces of the same sort are operating. Unless something startling develops in southern New England, the Republican ticket will be as strong here as usual.

Preliminary polls which give Hoover all the New England states are not necessarily indicative of what the vote will be in November, but the chances are that they foretell the result correctly. The present strength of Hoover shows that the fervor of Massachusetts and Rhode Island for Smith in 1928 and the relative coldness of Connecticut toward Hoover have disappeared. The enthusiasm was for Smith, who happened to be the Democratic candidate, and not for the Democratic candidate, who happened to be Smith. The inability of a nominee to transfer his support of the past to another man is an accepted fact in politics.

HERALD

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## WALSH PLEDGES ACTIVE SUPPORT

Senator Will Take Any Campaign Assignment, He Tells Farley

NEW YORK, Aug. 23 (AP)—Another of "Al" Smith's pre-convention supporters, Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, threw himself actively behind Gov. Roosevelt's presidential campaign today.

Walsh conferred with James A. Farley, Democratic national chairman, for about six hours and announced himself eager "to do anything you think will help bring us victory."

At the same time he said "disappointment" in New England over "the failure of the convention to nominate former Gov. Smith" is "gradually disappearing."

### SMITH NOT TO ATTEND

Less than a mile down the street Smith himself answered with a vigorous "no" a question as to whether he would attend the outdoor reception to Roosevelt at Seagirt, N. J., Saturday.

He also waved aside questions as to whether he intended to do any speaking for the Roosevelt-Garner ticket.

He has not in any way amplified a statement he gave out after his return from Chicago in which he declared he would support the party, which, he said, "naturally means its candidates."

Leaders at Democratic headquarters had expressed a hope Smith would indicate an active support of Roosevelt, whom he fought bitterly at Chicago, by attending the New Jersey rally.

Senator Walsh said he hoped to see the 1928 nominee either before he leaves the city this time or when he returns in September.

Walsh will take part in the Maine state campaign and will return to national headquarters after Labor day to aid in the New England campaign as a member of the campaign advisory committee.

Farley said reports from Maine convinced him "we'll make some good gains up there in the state election."

### OUTLOOK UPSTATE

He also said the "calibre of the men and women" running for various state and county offices "convinces me that upstate New York is ready to repeat what they did in 1930 and again go Democratic."

Mayor Curley of Boston, came to headquarters to map his stumping tour of the West and listen to a pre-view of a "talkie" he has made on the "Forgotten Man."

He forecast a Democratic victory in Massachusetts and said William D. Upshaw, presidential candidate of the national prohibition party, will draw 75,000 "irreconcilable dry Republican votes," while "Gov. Roosevelt will get at least 150,000 Independent votes."

The "Forgotten Man" became a contributor to the Roosevelt-Garner campaign during the day. Several letters bearing that signature and enclosing dollar bills were received at the Democratic headquarters.

A four-way broadcast over a nationwide hookup was announced by the campaign leaders.

At 8 P. M., Thursday, Gov. Roosevelt will deliver what was called "an

important message to the American people." He will be followed by Farley, speaking from New York; Evans Woollen, chairman of the campaign finance committee, speaking from Indianapolis, and former Gov. Harry F. Byrd, chairman of the executive campaign finance committee, speaking from New York.

CURLEY SEES FARLEY  
Speaking Tour to Take Mayor to Pacific Coast

Mayor Curley conferred in New York yesterday with James A. Farley, chairman of the Democratic national committee, Robert Jackson, director of the committee's speakers bureau, and chairmen of state committees of the middle West on the itinerary of his speaking trip through the west in behalf of the Democratic national ticket.

Without announcement of any sort the mayor suddenly left for the conference. He was told that many requests for his appearance in western cities had compelled the committee, despite the mayor's desire to return to Boston by the latter part of next month, at least, to lengthen his tour to Oct. 1. Under present plans, the mayor will leave Boston Sept. 2 and return Oct. 1, his program having been lengthened by three days.

Mayor Curley will leave Boston, Friday, Sept. 2, and speak at South Bend, Ind., the following night. His program continues: Sept. 4, Milwaukee, Sept. 5, Chicago, Sept. 6, leave for Butte, Mont., and speak en route. He will arrive at Butte Sept. 8 and speak that night. Sept. 9 he will be in Seattle, Wash., speak that night and leave the following day for Tacoma. Sept. 11 he will be in Portland, Ore., and Sept. 12 will speak at the opening of the national convention of the American Legion. He will leave that evening for San Francisco, where he will arrive Tuesday evening, Sept. 13.

In San Francisco, Sept. 14, the mayor will speak in the afternoon and evening. He will leave that night for Los Angeles where he will speak on Sept. 16 and 17. He will leave Los Angeles Sept. 18 and arrive at Salt Lake City, Utah, Sept. 19, where he will speak and remain for a rest.

Sept. 21, the mayor will arrive at Denver and speak that night. He will remain in Denver until late Sept. 22, leaving for Omaha, Neb., where he will speak Sept. 23. He will leave Omaha Sept. 24 and arrive in Kansas City, Mo. that afternoon and speak that night. He will leave Kansas City early Sept. 25, and arrive in St. Louis, Mo., that afternoon, resting until the following night, when he will speak. While in St. Louis he will be the house guest of Col. Bennett Clark, son of Champ Clark, and Democratic nominee for senator from Missouri.

He will remain in St. Louis until Sept. 27, and will leave for Cleveland, where he will speak that night. The train he will take back to Boston is uncertain at the present time. The mayor may leave at any time during the day. So the hour of his return to Boston is uncertain.

## CURLEY TO MAKE 24 SPEECHES

Tour to Coast and Back Between Sept. 3 and 27

Mayor Curley returned from New York last night after a conference with Chairman James A. Farley and Secretary Robert Jackson of the Democratic national committee in New York, at which a speaking tour was arranged which will take the Mayor to the Pacific coast and back to Cleveland between Sept. 3 and 27.

### STARTS AT SOUTH BEND

The itinerary as approved at Roosevelt and Garner headquarters yesterday calls for the Mayor to make his first speech for the national Democratic ticket at South Bend on Sept. 3; Milwaukee on the 4th; Chicago on the 5th; Butte, Mont., on the 8th; Seattle on the 9th; Tacoma on the 10th; Portland, Ore., on the 11th and 12th at the American Legion convention and a political meeting; San Francisco on the 13th, with other meetings on the following days in that vicinity; Los Angeles from the 16th to 18th; Salt Lake City, 19th and 20th; Denver on the 21st; Omaha on the 23d; Kansas City on the 24th; St. Louis on the 25th, where he will be the guest of Bennett Clark, son of the late Champ Clark, whom Curley supported for President in 1912; and Cleveland on the 27th.

The Mayor will be back in Boston on Sept. 28.

## WILL RETIRE CAPT. HEALY

Mayor to Act on South Boston Officer Soon

Retirement papers of Captain Michael Healy, commander of the Athens street station, were received by Police Commissioner Hultman yesterday and will be acted upon by the Mayor within the next few days.

Captain Healy is on his vacation at the present time and will not return to active duty. He has been in the police department for more than 30 years and has seen service in practically every police division in the city.

Globe

8/24/32

## WALSH, CURLEY CALL ON FARLEY

Senator Reports Smith  
Disappointment Dying  
  
Mayor Says Upshaw Will Win  
Dry Republican Votes Here

NEW YORK, Aug 22 (A. P.)—Another of Alfred E. Smith's preconvention supporters, Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, threw himself actively behind Gov. Roosevelt's Presidential campaign today.

Walsh conferred with James A. Farley, Democratic national chairman, for about six hours and announced himself eager "to do anything you think will help bring us victory."

At the same time he said "disappointment" in New England over "the failure of the convention to nominate Ex-Gov. Smith" is "gradually disappearing."

### Curley Also a Visitor

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He also said the "calibre of the men and women" running for various State and county offices "convinces me that upstate New York is ready to repeat what they did in 1930 and again go Democratic."

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### Sees Votes for Upshaw

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A four-way broadcast over a Nationwide hookup was announced by the campaign leaders. At 8 p m Thursday night Gov. Roosevelt will deliver what was called "an important message to the American people." He will be followed by Farley, speaking from New York; Evans Woolen, chairman of the campaign finance committee, speaking from Indianapolis, and Ex-Gov Harry F. Byrd chairman of the executive campaign finance committee, speaking from New York.

Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, Democratic national committee membe

## CURLEY IS SURPRISED AT ACTION OF SMITH

Returns From New York to Reveal  
Two More Dates Were Added  
To His Schedule in West

Expressing surprise on learning of the announcement of Ex-Gov. Alfred E. Smith that he had accepted the editorship of the New Outlook, Mayor James M. Curley on his return last night from a hurried trip to Democratic headquarters in New York said the statement was "unusual" but would make no further comment until he had time to study the situation.

Mayor Curley made the trip to New York to confer with Chairman James A. Farley concerning a revision in the itinerary of his month's tour of the West and also to meet State chairmen of several of the Western States who were in conference with Mr. Farley.

### He Shows Great Surprise

The Boston Mayor left New York at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon and arrived at the Back Bay station shortly before 10 o'clock last night. He was met by his son, Leo Curley. He was unaware of the announcement of Ex-Gov. Smith's plans and showed great surprise on learning of it.

Mayor Curley was greatly pleased with the arrangements made for his Western tour, but admitted he had a hard job ahead of him. Two speaking engagements have been added to the original itinerary because of requests made at national headquarters by Western Democrats. He will be gone from Boston from Sept 2 until Sept 28.

He will open his speaking tour at the State Fair Grounds, South Bend, Ind., Sept 3 instead of at Milwaukee, but will speak there on Sept 4. Then he will speak in Chicago Sept 5 and continue the swing through the West as follows:

Sept 8, Butte, Mont; Sept 9, Seattle; Sept 10, Tacoma, Wash; Sept 12, Portland, Ore, at the American Legion Convention; Sept 13, San Francisco; Sept 16, Los Angeles; Sept 19, Salt Lake City; Sept 21, Denver; Sept 23, Omaha; Sept 24, Kansas City; Sept 26, St. Louis; Sept 27, Cleveland. Democratic leaders at Cleveland made a special request that he be allowed to speak. He will leave Cleveland on the night of the 27th and arrive in Boston the next day.

### Promised Great Welcome

Yesterday he discussed arrangements for the tour with State chairmen from Indiana, Wisconsin and Ohio and was assured a great welcome when he arrives in their States.

Mayor Curley said he witnessed moving pictures of "The Forgotten Man," which he himself made in New York a week ago during his visit yesterday. He also said that Chairman Farley had told him that dozens of letters were being received at headquarters, containing \$1 and \$2 contributions, signed "From the Friend of the Forgotten Man."

Mayor Curley went to New York yesterday on the invitation of Chairman Farley received the day before. He left on the 10 o'clock train with two members of his secretarial staff and completed his work with the national organization in less than two hours and started home.

He made no attempt to reach Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt at Albany, he said, nor did he meet United States Senator David I. Walsh, who was also in New York yesterday to confer with Chairman Farley.

from the District of Columbia, conferred with Farley and praised Roosevelt's Ohio speech.

"That this speech hit home," she said, "is evidenced by the squeals which emanated Monday from Senator Moses, Congressman Snell and Undersecretary of State Castle.

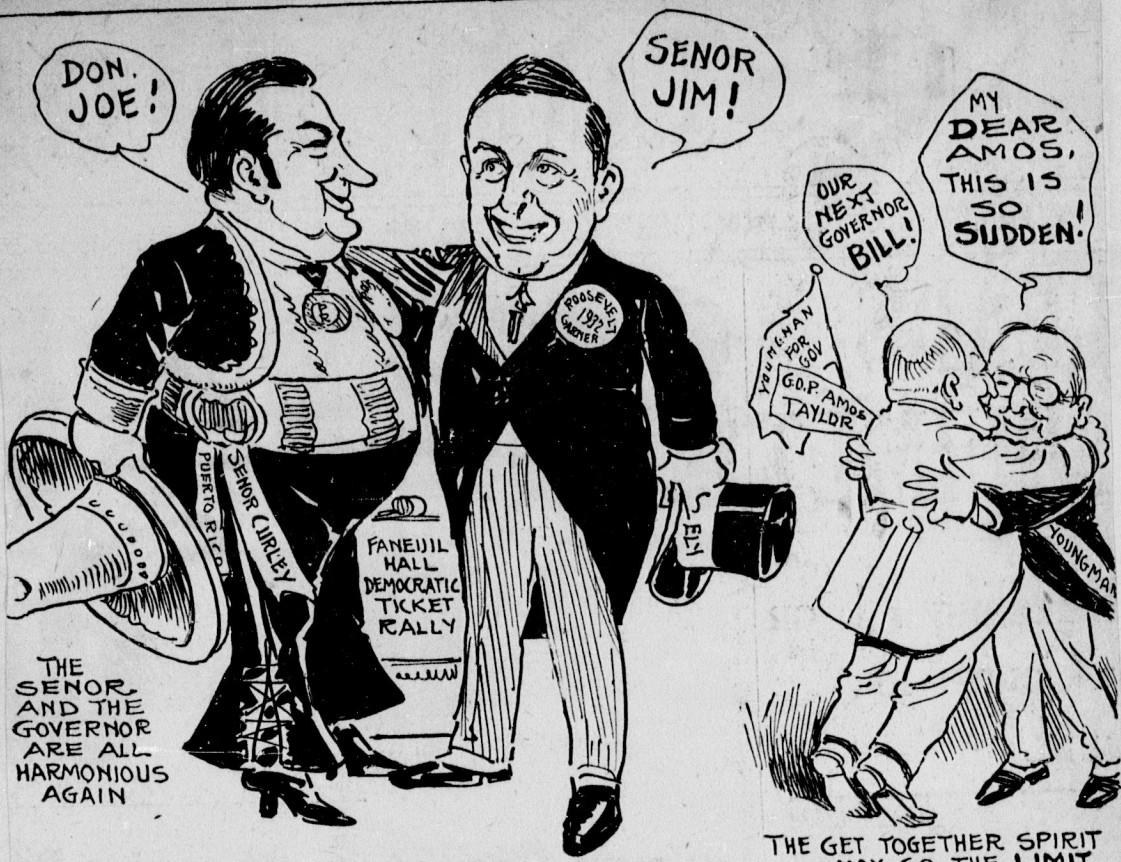
"Gov. Roosevelt has put the Republican Administration on the defensive, and I confidently expect him to keep it there."

### 1585 REGISTERED AFTER MEETING OF DEMOCRATS

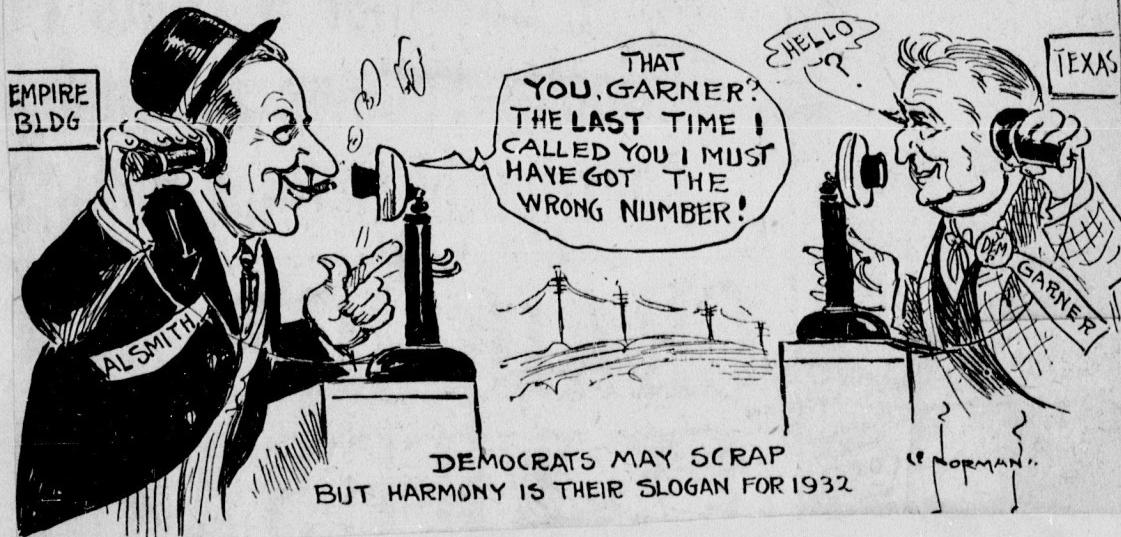
A total of 926 men and 659 women were registered as voters in Boston yesterday as a result of a Democratic meeting held the night before at Faneuil Hall, according to Mayor Curley today. Registration will close at the City Hall Election Department Aug 31 at 10 p.m.

POST 8/24/32

## THE HARMONY SEASON IS ON



THE GET TOGETHER SPIRIT  
MAY GO THE LIMIT



Post vs 8/25/32

Ghobis

# JUST SAID HELLO AND LISTENED

People Met Casually All Have  
Something on Their Minds and  
All Are Interesting Types

BY ELLIOT NORTON

They all had something on their mind, those people. Something interesting, too, for they are all interesting people, though of many different types.

The reporter, wandering aimlessly round the town, merely said "Hello!" and listened.

## CAPTAIN ROGER IS ONE

Captain Roger Martin was the first. Captain Roger, who has sailed the seven seas and is now running a tow-boat business and a Rockport haberdashery at one and the same time, was walking in Newspaper Row.

"You know," said Roger, by way of preface, "sailing and selling are not exactly the same thing. You can't fool me much on a boat, I'll swear. But the first day I worked in that haberdashery store of mine—about three weeks ago—I actually sold my own hat to a man, and didn't even know it."

## A \$10 Hat for One

"Yessir. I was working away there at my accounts, and a man came in and said 'How much for that hat there on the counter?'

"I didn't even look up. I said, 'How much will you give?'

"He said, 'One dollar!'

"I said, 'Sold!' And he took it.

"Then, when I went to go home, I asked the cashier where my hat was, and she said, 'Why, Captain Martin, you sold it!' And, sure enough, I had sold it—a ten-dollar hat for one buck!"

## Mayer Curleys Comeback

... The news photographer was on School street, rushing back from the baseball game.

"Yes," he began "they lost. But did I tell you how Mayor Curley answered that would-be heckler in the parade, that night we welcomed back the delegate from Porto Rico?

"The heckler was standing on the sidewalk as the Mayor's car went by. He looked up at Mayor Curley and shouted, 'Vamos, Señor!' Which is Spanish for 'Go chase yourself.'

"The Mayor just stared at him coldly, and replied in 'hat deep, boomin' voice of his: 'Am-sray!'-which is Broadway hog Latin for the very same thing."

SAYS LIST CUT  
\$14,000,000

Mayor Curley Discusses  
Boston Valuations

Renews Plea for \$20,000,000  
State Bond Issue to Cities

Mayor Curley, in a statement issued yesterday, declared that a reduction was made last year in total valuations in Boston of more than \$14,000,000.

It is the duty of everybody interested in relieving the home-owner and the business interests, the Mayor contended, to unite in a demand for a special session of the Legislature to put through a \$15,000,000 bond issue which "would make possible an immediate disbursement equivalent to \$2 on every thousand of valuation paid by the taxpayer.

"It has been charged," the statement continues, "that the officials of the city have been remiss in the matter of reducing valuations. What are the facts? Last year real estate valuations for the first time since 1879 showed a gross reduction of \$17,600,000. This reduction was offset by gains resulting entirely from new construction of approximately \$5,000,000, so that a net reduction in real estate values as reflected in last year's rates was approximately \$12,600,000.

"Values in personal property in 1931 reflected a gross reduction of \$2,750,000, which were offset in part by the increases of \$1,300,000, leaving a net decrease in this particular item of close to \$1,500,000. A combination of these figures indicates that a reduction was made last year in the total valuations of the city of over \$14,000,000.

"The fact that the city administration has refused to be bulldozed and coerced by certain self-seeking individuals and organizations does not support the contention it has failed to take the proper and necessary action in the readjustment of property valuations.

"At the present time there is pending before His Excellency a proposal for a \$15,000,000 bond issue to be amortized from the present income of the automobile and gasoline tax. The adoption of this measure will simply mean a slight lessening of road construction activities and will not alone provide relief for the cities and towns, but will offset a \$2 increase in the rate."

## CURLEY TALKIE PLEASSES CHIEF

Roosevelt Phones Mayor  
to Say He Is Satisfied

Governor Roosevelt of New York, yesterday called Mayor Curley on the City Hall telephone to express his satisfaction with the "forgotten man" speech which the Mayor recently staged for the sound pictures during his visit to the Democratic national headquarters.

The Mayor told reporters, who were in press conference with him when the Albany call came in, that the Governor had sanctioned the "talkie" as "perfect."

## WEST ANXIOUS TO HEAR MAYOR

Curley Gets Two More  
Invitations to Speak

Mayor Curley yesterday received two more invitations to speak in the West in addition to the schedule of 15 campaign speeches lined up for his September tour by the Roosevelt for President managers.

The bids yesterday came from the Central Democratic committee at Butte, Mont., and the Chamber of Commerce at Denver, Col. The latter group requested a non-political address by Boston's chief executive.

On his campaign tour to the Pacific Coast, the Mayor will be accompanied by his two sons, Paul and Leo Curley, provided that they can obtain leave from the authorities at Boston College to postpone the opening of school for them until Sept. 28.

H  
ERALD

8/25/32

## WELFARE BOARD DENIES LAXITY

Defends Aiding Home  
Owners and Those with  
Criminal Records

## POLICE UNCOVER 'DOLE' IMPOSTORS

A long defense of the administration of the Boston welfare department and of the granting of aid to home owners as well as families of persons with criminal records, was made last night by the department's overseers. At the same time police continued to turn up impostors receiving aid, including a narcotic peddler, an employed cab driver and a chronic drunkard.

Other developments yesterday in the welfare situation were the sentencing of two "dole fakers" to jail, in Boston, findings of guilty against relief grafters in Cambridge and Waltham, and the institution of police investigation of welfare cases in Natick, where town officials are alarmed at the increase in relief expenditures.

### SAYS CRITICISM UNMERITED

The overseers asserted that more than 100,000 persons in Boston are now being aided, and that despite precautions dishonesty is bound to occur in supplying support for so great a number of persons.

Criticism of laxity by visitors in determining whether the 25,000 families which make up the 100,000 persons supported by the city are worthy of help, is unmerited, the overseers declared. They describe in detail the numerous checks made on applicants' statements before funds are granted and asserted that fraud, where discovered, continually has been prosecuted for the past two years.

The overseers also asserted that cases where police have discovered persons given aid are owners of homes does not necessarily indicate dishonesty, and that relief has been granted in some cases despite such property ownership. Aid of families of persons with criminal records also was defended.

"In many cases," said the statement, "it has been necessary to aid home owners to prevent suffering. We have not attempted to penalize thrift, and the mere ownership of real estate in itself often constitutes more of a liability than an asset. Likewise, the aiding of families of those with criminal records is obvious because the innocent wives and children should not suffer privation after the courts have dealt with the offenders."

Municipal funds paid in welfare relief are not entirely gifts, as is popularly supposed, the overseers continued.

## Curley Plan to Use Aid Receivers As Election Clerks Ruled Illegal

The plan of Mayor Curley to save the city \$15,000 by the appointment of recipients of municipal aid as election clerks was declared illegal yesterday by Samuel Silverman, city corporation counsel, as the Republican city committee protested vigorously against the plan.

In a letter to the election commissioners the Republican city committee charged that "a group of men sent up by the welfare department for possible appointment as precinct officers, all enrolled as Democrats, were informed by a member of your board (the election commission) that if they would change their enrolment they would receive appointment as Republican election officers."

Other charges made by the Republican city committee were:

Democratic voters on changing their enrolment to Republican have been directly appointed to serve as

Republican election officers, although the law requires a lapse of 30 days before such change of enrolment becomes effective.

Republican precinct officers in some of the wards have been appointed as vacancies occurred directly by members of your board without consulting the party representatives.

A chairman of a Republican committee being consulted with reference to appointment of a Republican to fill a vacancy was informed by one of your board that none but "Curley Republicans" would be appointed to these positions.

In connection with the appointment of a Republican outside registrar, one member of your board rejected the recommendation of the chairman of the Republican ward committee for that ward and did appoint to fill the vacancy "one of your friends."

Since every family head receiving aid if physically able, is required to work on city projects, from one to four days weekly. Approximately 12,000 men are so employed at present, the board declared.

"On non-working days the recipient must report to the department," the statement said. "Thus the possibility of an unemployed person receiving aid is minimized, the taxpayer receives a return for his support of the recipient, and there is no 'dole.'"

Prosecution of persons who have obtained relief on false pretences, the overseers declared, has been going on in co-operation with a special prosecutor from the office of the corporation counsel since the depression began. Frauds have been proceeded against on criminal grounds and large amounts of money have been recovered by civil action.

Criticism implied by the police inquiry that insufficient effort is made to determine whether applicants' are worthy to receive city funds, also was met by the overseers.

"Every application for aid is made in writing, under oath, and is carefully investigated by a corps of trained visitors and investigators and a visit to the applicant's home is made," the overseers' statement said.

"Inquiry is made into ownership of real estate, insurance, bank accounts and other property of value. Forty-three banks are written to on every case, including postal savings. Ownership of automobiles is checked with the registry. This investigation extends also to the children, parents and relatives of the applicant to determine their ability to aid. All this is done to place the responsibility for aid where it rightly belongs and to reduce the cost of public aid to the taxpayers before a case is accepted. A written report of such investigation is made a part of the permanent records of the department. Not every applicant receives aid. Thousands, after such investigation, are found to be self-supporting or unworthy of aid."

The disclosure that a narcotic peddler was on the city welfare list came with the arrest yesterday afternoon at Massachusetts avenue and Washington street of Thomas Keenan, 40, of 2973 Washington street, on charges of sale and possession of drugs.

Keenan was arrested after putting up stiff resistance to a federal narcotic

agent. The agent told Special Officers John Pimental and Lawrence O'Connor of the East Dedham street station, assigned to welfare investigation, that he was going to attempt to purchase drugs from Keenan, and asked assistance if a struggle resulted.

The agent then approached Keenan, who is alleged to have accepted cash in return for a match box with a false bottom containing two "decks" of morphine. Keenan struggled so violently when arrested that Pimental and O'Connor had to come to the aid of the agent to prevent his injury.

When searched at the East Dedham street station, Keenan was found to possess a card entitling him to public aid in Boston. He refused to discuss how he obtained it or how long he had held it, and was held for prosecution by federal authorities.

### TAXI DRIVER ON LIST

Others discovered to be on the welfare list yesterday were Edmund O'Rourke, 51, of Mason street, Charlestown, who appeared in court for the 24th time on charges of drunkenness, and Morris Silva of Devon street, Roxbury. Silva, a taxi driver, was in Dorchester court for speeding, and it became known he was receiving aid when he declared he could not pay a \$25 fine.

For the larceny from the city of Boston by obtaining aid fraudulently, Albert Mizher of 236 Harrison avenue, and Mario Mazzotti of 57 Hull street, were sentenced to six months each in the house of correction. Both appealed and were held in bail of \$1000 each. Also in municipal court yesterday was Mrs. Catherine Glynn of 7 Leonard street, Dorchester, who was fined \$50 after making restitution of \$285. All had sums of \$1000 or more in the bank.

Post

8/25/32

# NIP 70 MILLION OFF CITY VALUE

## Assessors' Slash Greatest in City's History---Tax Rate to Go Up About \$4

Reductions of \$70,000,000 in property valuations for Boston taxpayers this year were announced last night by Mayor Curley in a public statement, replying to critics who claimed that he was refusing to permit the assessors to cut the assessments.

### RATE MAY BE \$35.50

His announcement that the assessors were slashing from the valuations all that the city had gained since 1926, was taken as an indication that when the tax rate is announced within the next few days it will reach \$35.50, representing an increase of \$4 over the 1931 rate.

"It is clearly the duty of every organization and individual interested in relieving home-owners and business interests," warned the Mayor, "to unite in a demand for a special session of the Legislature at once to adopt a \$15,000,000 bond issue for distribution among the cities and towns for relief, since the adoption of the proposed bond issue, notwithstanding the declaration of the tax rates, would make possible an immediate disbursement equivalent to \$2 on every \$1000 of valuation paid by the taxpayer."

### Real Estate Load Heavy

The Mayor protested that 70 per cent of public expenditures were borne by the taxes on real estate and contended that the diversion of \$15,000,000 from the automobile and gasoline tax receipts during the next five years, \$3,000,000 for each year, would help the home-owners without hindering the major highway projects.

He declared that his administration foresaw the dropping realty market in the depression, as well as the falling off in tax receipts, and for this reason presented relief measures to the Legislature last January, but all the proposals were thrown out.

His administration was not "deluding itself" in respect to property values and immediately started to make reductions along a "conservative and scientific" policy, although it refused to be "bull-dozed or coerced by self-seeking individuals and organizations."

### Big 1931 Reductions

The mayor recalled that in 1931 his assessors made reductions of \$14,000,000 in assessed valuations throughout the city, marking the first drop in taxable property values since 1879 on real estate.

By next year, he promised, the property of the entire city will be assessed

self-seeking individuals and organizations does not support the contention it has failed to take the proper and necessary action in the re-adjustment of property valuations," said the Mayor.

Herald

## CONTRACTS APPROVED ON SIGNALS AND PAVING

Contracts approved by Mayor Curley yesterday awarded to the Edison Electric Illuminating Company, without advertising, the work of installing 11 automatic traffic signals at street intersections in suburban districts at a total cost of \$16,800.

Other contracts approved awarded the work of laying paving in Commonwealth avenue between Warren and Allston streets to A. R. Doyle for \$18,636, and the work of laying asphalt paving in Glenhaven road, West Roxbury, Bowditch road, Jamaica Plain, Beach street, Hyde Park, and Bismarck street, Roxbury, to Charles Capone for \$23,086. The mayor approved the acceptance of Winslow and West Saville street, West Roxbury, as public ways with betterment assessment of \$2700 in each case.

Record

## \$70,000,000 CUT IN VALUATIONS

Boston's valuation for tax purposes this year will be slashed 70,000,000. Mayor Curley announced last night, replying to critics who charged he refused to permit the assessors to cut down on property assessments.

The tax rate to be announced in the next few days may reach \$35.50, an increase of \$4, it was indicated. The slash takes away all the valuation in property gained by the city since 1926, he said.

## Ch 032 MAYOR APPROVES GROUP OF DRAIN IMPROVEMENTS

Mayor Curley yesterday approved the following improvements in various parts of the city:

Sanitary sewer in Ridge road, Hyde Park, \$950; surface drain in Mattapan st, Dorchester, \$2200; surface drain in Cresthill road, Brighton, \$4500; surface drain in Carleton st, city proper, \$4200; surface drain in Claremont st, city proper, \$9585.

Admits Changes Needed

"Values in personal property in 1931 reflected a gross reduction of \$2,750,000, which were offset in part by the increases of \$1,300,000, leaving a net decrease in this particular item of close to \$1,500,000. A combination of these figures indicates that a reduction was made last year in the total valuations of the city of over \$14,000,000. The reductions in 1932 will be approximately five times as great as those recorded in 1931.

Does this bear out the contention that city officials have failed to appreciate conditions as they exist in the city?" asked the Mayor.

The present administration at City Hall has not deluded itself with respect to its proper action in fixing valuations upon which to levy taxes. It has been cognizant for two years at least of the necessity of adjusting valuations, and it has acted conservatively and as scientifically as conditions would seem to warrant. The fact it has refused to be bull-dozed and coerced by certain

Globe

8/25/32

HERALD

## REPUBLICANS APPEAL PRECINCT SELECTIONS

### Folk on Dole Are Barred From Posts at Polls

Protesting that Democratic voters have changed their party enrollment to Republican to obtain appointment as precinct officers, and that "Curley Republicans," selected without consultation with the party representatives in the district, have been given similar appointments, the Republican City committee yesterday filed an appeal to correct the alleged abuses with the Board of Election Commissioners of the City of Boston.

The committee, speaking through a special committee, Herman Hormel, Charles H. Innes and Henry Parkman Jr., also protested against "the intention to appoint men from the Public Welfare list" as precinct officials. This protest was unnecessary because Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman ruled yesterday that it would be a violation of law to employ men on the city aid rolls as precinct officers. Mayor James M. Curley said last night that none would be appointed.

#### Five Complaints Made

The Republicans, in their protest, complained of five things to which they objected, "not so much because of these particular cases, but because of the fundamental attitude they reveal, and the harm such an attitude may do to the proper conduct of election."

The complaints were of:

"1. A group of men sent up by the Welfare Department for possible appointment as precinct officers, all enrolled as Democrats, were informed by a member of your board that if they would change their enrollment they would receive appointment as Republican election officers.

"2. Democratic voters on changing their enrollment to Republican have been directly appointed to serve as Republican election officers, although the law requires a lapse of 30 days before such change of enrollment becomes effective.

"3. Republican precinct officers in some of the wards have been appointed as vacancies occurred directly by members of your board without consulting with the party representatives.

#### Told of Curley Republicans

"4. A chairman of a Republican committee being consulted with reference to appointment of a Republican to fill a vacancy was informed by one of your board that none but 'Curley' Republicans would be appointed to these positions.

"5. In connection with the appointment of a Republican outside registrar, one member of your board rejected the recommendation of the chairman of the Republican ward committee for that ward and did appoint to fill the vacancy 'one of our friends.'

In conclusion, the committee said: "We believe that vacancies in precinct officials which occur should be discussed either with the president of the city committee, or, if the board prefers, the chairmen of the various ward committees throughout the city. It is our opinion also that it would be most helpful if notice should be sent to the various ward chairmen or the president of the city committee that the Election Board is taking up the question of election officers for the year to come, and would like to know if there is any objection to making

or those who have served during the past year.

"This would give an opportunity for the removal of such men and women as may have become incapacitated or apparently have left their party organization and, therefore, were serving contrary to the spirit of the election law."

## FAKE SOLICITORS ASK AID FOR DEMOCRATS

### Maynard Warns of Appeal That Lacks Authorization

"Beware of unauthorized solicitors of funds to meet the expenses of the Democratic State convention," is a warning issued by Joseph A. Maynard, chairman of the Democratic State Committee, in a statement issued yesterday. He declared that he has heard that such soliciting has been going on in different sections of the State with business men and candidates for office as prospective victims.

Money has been thus solicited, Mr. Maynard asserted, on the pretext that it will pay for advertising in a Democratic State Committee Year book. The State Committee has not authorized solicitation of money for the State convention, he said. All persons asked to contribute for such purposes have been requested to call Hubbard 2773 or to write State Committee headquarters, 75 State st.

## INVITATIONS REACH MAYOR FOR STOPS ON TRIP WEST

The details of Mayor Curley's Western speaking tour in the interest of the Democratic Presidential nominee, Franklin D. Roosevelt, are taking definite shape. Invitations are already beginning to come into City Hall from various parts of the United States urging the Mayor to pay special visits and make addresses.

Yesterday invitations to the Mayor came from the Chamber of Commerce at Denver, requesting Mayor Curley to make an address before the members Sept. 23, and from the Democratic State committee of Montana to pay the committee a call on his visit to Butte on Sept. 8. The Mayor said that he felt he would accept the invitations.

Mayor Curley said yesterday that he expects to cover 6000 miles in his 30-day Western tour, traveling at the rate of about 200 miles a day. Mayor Curley said that he will probably take his sons, Leo and Paul, with him, if they are able to get away from their studies. He said he will also bring along with him one of the office stenographers. Miss Mary Curley, the Mayor's daughter, will not make the trip.

#### Curley in Germantown Today

Mayor Curley will be the chief speaker today at the exercises attending the breaking ground for the new playground in Washington st, Germantown, near the Dedham line. The program will begin at 1 o'clock.

## 50,000 NEW VOTES IS AIM OF CURLEY

Mayor Curley yesterday made plans for an intensive registration drive with a view to adding 50,000 names to the present voting lists to bring the total up to the record of 299,066 established in 1928. On Tuesday the names of 926 men and 659 women were added to the lists.

He also revealed yesterday that he has received invitations to extend his speaking tour of western cities to communities not included in his present itinerary of 6000 miles and that he may be the principal speaker at a huge Labor day mass meeting to be held in Chicago.

The mayor has not yet decided who will accompany him on his tour, but said his sons, Leo and Paul, may go with him if he can arrange to have their school vacations extended.

Yesterday at his home he received the congratulations of Gov. Roosevelt on his short motion picture "The Forgotten Man." Roosevelt said he had issued orders to have the picture shown in many localities to assist in the campaign.

## ANACONDA WANTS SPEECH BY CURLEY

Mayor Curley yesterday received a telegram from J. D. Kelley, chairman of the Democratic central committee of Butte, Mont., expressing hope that the mayor would add Anaconda to his schedule, which calls for a speech in Butte, Sept. 8.

## Past CURLEY URGES REGISTRATION

### Next Wednesday Last Day to Get on List

Recalling that Alfred E. Smith carried the State by 16,000 in the last presidential election, and that Governor Ely won two years later by but 12,000 votes, Mayor Curley yesterday appealed for increased registration of voters here during the next six working days to insure victory for the Democratic ticket.

Registration of voters for the Sept. 20 primaries will close next Wednesday night at 10 o'clock under the election laws, and the Mayor issued a warning against waiting until the last minute. Boston in the 1928 election had 299,066 registered voters, but since that time 50,000 were dropped from the list.

Herald

8/25/32

TRANS CRIST

# \$4 BOSTON TAX JUMP EXPECTED

## Reduction of Value of Taxable Property Amounts to \$70,000,000

A jump in the Boston tax rate of \$4, to \$34 or above, is anticipated as a result of a reduction of \$70,000,000 in the city's valuation of taxable property. The present rate is \$31.50.

### LOSS OF 5 PER CENT.

The reductions now bring the valuation of the city to about the level prevailing in 1926, according to a statement by Mayor Curley. Last year the valuation was reduced \$14,000,000. The reduction now amounts to a loss of 5 per cent. in two years of a total valuation of more than \$1,900,000,000.

The mayor says it has been charged officials of the city have been remiss in reducing valuations, but the facts showed a net loss in 1931 of \$14,000,000, of which the reduction on real estate was \$12,000,000.

The mayor says further it is clearly the duty of every organization and individual interested in relieving home owners and business interests to unite in a demand for a special session of the Legislature to adopt a \$15,000,000 bond issue for distribution among the cities and towns for relief.

City property by next year, according to the mayor, will be assessed at an equitable standard. A corps of 50 draftsmen is now completing installation of the block system of assessing, for which work an appropriation of \$50,000 was included in the budget.

The mayor stressed the valuation shrinkage as an effective answer to unnamed critics who he said regularly accuse him of failure to appreciate the marked reduction in taxable values forced by the protracted industrial depression.

He expressed apprehension that continuance of what he termed "organized propaganda" calculated to materially benefit a limited number of taxpayers may eventually cause a serious impairment of the financial structure of the city—a consideration which he asserted has impelled him to answer their charges.

After pointing out that a conference in January with officials of the Chamber of Commerce, the Boston Real Estate Exchange, assessors and other city officials resulted in the setting aside of \$50,000 to hasten the completion of the block plans of the entire city to provide a basis for equitable assessment of all property, the mayor declared that his instructions to the assessors were to make proportional reductions this year in every assessment problem when available data warranted a markdown.

The net result, according to the mayor's claim, is that the taxable valuation has been reduced to the level of 1926. "It may be said," commented the mayor, "that such a markdown is not enough, since it actually does not reflect the changes which have taken place in the real estate market since the beginning of the depression."

He said:

Such a statement overlooks the fact that real estate assessments always lag behind economic conditions. In times of prosperity and rising markets the assessed valuations of the city are considerably lower than the fair market value. No complaint has ever been registered by real estate operators and owners to this condition. Why then should the same individuals and organizations expect that city authorities in periods of depression can adjust their assessments to as to reflect fair market values?

Considerable importance has been attached to the statement that the city of New York will this year reduce its assessed valuations by \$1,500,000,000. As an isolated figure, this would appear to represent an enormous reduction, but to appreciate the true meaning of this reduction it should be interpreted in its relation to the total assessed valuation of New York.

According to the comptroller's report of that city the taxable valuation in 1931 was slightly in excess of \$20,000,000,000. A reduction, therefore, of \$1,500,000,000 is equivalent to a reduction of 7½ per cent. When the final figures for this year have been determined by the board of assessors it will be evident that the reduction in assessed values in this city since 1930 will approximate in excess of 5 per cent., a showing fairly comparable to that of New York.

It is unfair to use the cities of New Bedford and Fall River as examples of what should be done in Boston. The two former cities are admittedly single industrial communities. With the utter collapse of the textile industry, it is only natural to expect a marked and extreme reduction in the valuations of these two cities. Business and industry in Boston, however, is diversified and we have not witnessed to any material degree what has taken place in Fall River and New Bedford. Why claim, then, that Boston should keep apace with these two cities in reducing valuations?

It has been charged that the officials of the city have been remiss in the matter of reducing valuations. The facts showed a net loss last year of approximately \$14,000,000 of which the reduction on real estate was \$12,000,000.

Does this bear out the contention that city officials have failed to appreciate conditions as they exist in the city? Before answering this question, consideration should also be given to the fact that the reductions in values in 1932 will be approximately five times as great as those recorded in 1931. The mayor asserted that it would be folly to hold that there should be a complete readjustment of values in a period of depression but admitted that there can be no justification for any failure to recognize the necessity for a gradual readjustment.

Time, he said, will determine proper values and in his opinion that period is not at the present time.

He reiterated his claim that the financial situation of Boston has been complicated by the refusal of the Legislature to enact measures which would lessen the burden on realty owners and he re-affirmed his contention that the \$15,000,000 state bond issue to be authorized by five annual deductions from the state highway fund is a meritorious measure, assuring financial relief to all municipalities, which should be recommended to the Legislature by Gov. Ely.

## CITY VALUATION

Off \$70,000,000

## Mayor Curley Denies Charge Assessors Have Failed to Sense Conditions

Charging unfairness on the part of critics in not giving the Administration credit for reducing the valuation of real estate, Mayor Curley, in a public statement, declares that there will be a reduction of \$70,000,000 this year. Without hinting at the probable tax rate, which seems destined for an advance of \$2.50 or \$3, the mayor appeals for support of the \$15,000,000 bond issue which the Mayors' Club of Massachusetts has recommended to Governor Ely for consideration at a special session of the Legislature, and which, the mayor states, would mean an immediate disbursement equivalent to \$2 on every \$1000 of valuation paid by the taxpayer.

That the Administration foresaw the falling realty market in the depression, as well as the falling off in tax receipts, the mayor says, was clearly reflected in relief measures presented to the Legislature last January, all of which failed. The Administration was not "deluding itself" in respect to property values and immediately started to make reductions along a "conservative and scientific" policy, although it refused to be "bulldozed or coerced by self-seeking individuals and organizations."

In 1931, the mayor says, the assessors made reductions of \$14,000,000, in taxable valuations, marking the first drop since 1879 on real estate. By next year, he promises, the property of the entire city will be assessed on an equitable standard, for a corps of fifty draftsmen and engineers is now completing the installation of the block system of assessing.

The block system was agreed upon at a January conference, the mayor states, with the heads of the Boston Chamber of Commerce and the Boston Real Estate Exchange.

"It was agreed at this conference," the mayor explains, "that it would be impossible to bring about a complete equalization of values until the year 1933, but the board of assessors was instructed by the mayor that in 1932 proportional decreases in values should be allowed wherever available data would warrant such action.

"While the assessors have not as yet completed their tabulation of assessed values for 1932, it is apparent now that when this work has been completed, reductions will have been made which will bring the valuation of the city approximately to the level which prevailed in 1926.

"The markdowns in valuations by the assessors in 1932 will be practically equivalent to the total of the increases which have been recorded on their books in the last five years. Last year real estate valuations for the first time since 1879 showed a gross reduction of \$17,600,000. This reduction was partially offset by gains resulting entirely from new construction of approximately \$5,000,000, so that a net reduction in real estate values as reflected in last year's rate was approximately \$12,600,000.

"Values in personal property in 1931 reflected a gross reduction of \$2,750,000, which were offset in part by the increases of \$1,300,000, leaving a net decrease in this particular item of close to \$1,500,000. A combination of these figures indicates that a reduction was made last year in the total valuations of the city of over \$14,000,000. The reductions in 1932 will be approximately five times as great as those recorded in 1931.

"Does this bear out the contention that city officials have failed to appreciate conditions as they exist in the city?"

TRANSCRIPT 8/26/32

# Two Buildings in \$4,000,000 Downtown Deal

## Province and Young's Hotel Structures in Trade—Curley for New City Hall

Two large buildings in the downtown section of the city changed hands today—the Province Building, 315 to 335 Washington street, and the old Young's Hotel building, Court street and Court square—representing a \$4,000,000 transaction, the largest in Boston, as the promoters say, in the last three years. Papers were placed to record in the Suffolk Registry of Deeds this afternoon.

Negotiations for the purchase of the old hotel, now occupied temporarily by the Government for the courts and post office, were featured by the proposed temporary use of the structure, when the new Federal Building is opened, by departments occupying City Hall, Mayor Curley having proposed a new city hall on the present School street site. Not until this afternoon, however, had a hint been conveyed that the Olympia Realty Company had any intention of selling the Province Building to William J. McDonald, Bernard Goldfine and Max Shoolman through Kenyon L. Pease, and they to resell it to the Fifty Associates, of which Herbert M. Sears is president, Arthur N. Maddison, vice president, and George L. De Blois, treasurer.

Both transactions are in the nature of a trade, for it is McDonald, Shoolman and Goldfine who acquire the famous old hotel property, owned by the Fifty Associates for more than fifty years and operated as a hotel for even a longer period. DeBlois and Maddison, general agents for the Fifty Associates, recently made the lease and expended nearly \$100,000 in alterations for the Government's occupancy. To hold this property a corporation has been formed called the Y. H. Company, the officers of which are Winthrop R. Scudder, president; Bernard Goldfine, treasurer; and Fred L. Metzler and Max Shoolman, directors.

Though the company is ready to lease the hotel property to the city for the housing of city departments if the mayor goes through with his hope of erecting a new city hall, a period which might run into two years, the present intention is to raze the old structure and erect a new building. Richard deB. Boardman of the office of T. Dennis Boardman, Reginald and R. deB. Boardman, represented the Fifty Associates in this transaction. The attorneys representing the Olympia Realty Company, the Fifty Associates and the Y. H. Company were Elbridge R. Anderson and Herman A. Mintz.

The Province Building, in which the principal tenant is the Woolworth Company, has a frontage of 125 feet on Washington street, running through to Province street, bordering on Province court, a depth of 225 feet, and contains 23,015 feet of land, which is assessed on \$1,572,000. The building is assessed on \$1,217,000, making a total assessed value of \$2,789,000. A portion of the fee of the land is owned by the Massachusetts General Hospital and is carried by an assignment of the ground lease.

The building is of fireproof construction, with retail stores on the first and second floors, eight stories in height and contains more than 500 offices. It was

built about ten years ago by the Olympia Realty Company.

In commenting upon the large transaction this afternoon, Messrs. McDonald, Goldfine and Schoolman declared their belief that it would do much toward the restoration of confidence among real estate operators and the public generally. They said: "The tide is turning; we at the beginning of a new era; our discouragements are vanishing. Real estate is one of the greatest investments and holders of first mortgages have the best security to be imagined. Let us all pull together for a Greater Boston and for the immediate return of prosperity to all."

## Curley Ignores Board Favoring a Civic Center

In directing an inquiry by city officials looking to the erection of a new city hall of fifteen stories on the site of the present School street building, Mayor Curley has completely ignored the advice of his special committee on a possible new civic center for Boston and, in fact, has not consulted this group of eminent citizens since their final report was filed on Jan. 3, 1931.

The committee comprised the members of the City Planning Board and Messrs. Clarence H. Blackall, Charles A. Coolidge, Ralph Adams Cram, Charles D. Maginnis, William Stanley Parker and J. Harleston Parker. Organized on Jan. 13, 1930, the committee held meetings practically every week, including conferences with business and financial interests, the real estate interests and representatives of many of the city departments, and, in addition, each member of the committee made a personal study of the whole problem.

As Ralph Adams Cram announced to the mayor at the final session at City Hall, on the filing of the report with drawings, the problem proved of such complexity that the entire committee was unable to agree. The majority were of the opinion that Scollay square is the best site for a city hall, but Mr. Cram and Mr. Blackall submitted a minority report, declaring themselves unable to agree to that suggestion. They said:

"We hold that its (City Hall) erection at this point would be short-sighted and calamitous, that it would not offer adequate lines of approach and would tend still further to congest traffic conditions, while it would militate against the desirable growth of the city south and west and would take cognizance neither of this growth nor the future unification of the Metropolitan district."

## Arlington Square Favored

Messrs. Cram and Blackall felt that Arlington square offered the best site for a civic center, capable of accommodating a city hall, auditorium and other public buildings, saying that "the district is in line with the growth of the city, offers adequate transportation facilities by surface traffic, railways and subways, while it is close to the hotel district and furnishes a proper outlet for the extension of retail trade.

In considering the present City Hall site for a new building, the mayor has abandoned the civic center idea, though when he appointed the committee for an investigation he was in favor of a civic center in the South End. The majority membership did not think that the district would be accessible "by means of existing or possible future rapid transit lines, nor did it appear warranted in general business trends."

The decision of the majority membership in favor of Scollay square as the best location was based on "its close relation to the Court House, to its maintenance of a traditional close relationship to the main financial, business and

legal centers of the city as well as to the State House and the Federal building and the consequent protection of the established values and importance of the heart of the present and historic Boston; its rehabilitation of a depreciated area in the heart of the city, and its location at the focus of the present and future rapid transit and thoroughfare system of the city."

It was also the thought of the majority membership that if a civic auditorium were to be decided upon "it should be located to the south or west of the Park square district, as near to the general hotel district as practicable with adequate thoroughfare approaches and close contact with the rapid transit lines." It was stated that "in view of the contemplated future thoroughfare over the Boston & Albany and New York New Haven and Hartford Railroad tracks, a location in the vicinity of Arlington square seems admirably suited to fit these requirements and capable of being developed into a civic center of dignity and importance, offering site for several other public and semi-public structures."

When the committee settled down to work it became evident that only three sites seemed to meet the greater number of considerations involved, these being the present location of the City Hall and the office building; the vicinity of Scollay square and the vicinity of Park square.

## Present Site Unsuitable

"For very weighty reasons the first project was abandoned and attention forthwith was concentrated on what may be called the Scollay square site and the Park square site," the committee said. "In explanation of this action we would say that your committee felt that the restricted amount of land available at the present City Hall site, the very great cost of additional land and the great difficulty, if not impossibility, of providing proper approaches argued definitely against this location. Moreover, there would be no possibility of a real civic center at this point, and even though a satisfactory city hall might be provided for, it would stand alone without the possibility of the development of surrounding public or semi-public buildings. Your committee is of the opinion that a true civic center is required and this can only be obtained through the acceptance of a new site."

Mayor Curley a week ago asked Building Commissioner Edward W. Roemer and Superintendent of Schoolhouse Construction Louis K. Rourke to figure on the space needed for a new city hall which would house the three leading departments now outside—the school construction, the transit and the law departments—and also to estimate whether the old Young's Hotel building, now in temporary use by the Government, would be suitable to house city hall departments during the time necessary to construct the new building. Both officials reported to the mayor this week. A fifteen-story building would be large enough for all city requirements, except the school committee, and the Young's Hotel building would be large enough for temporary use.

In connection with the proposal, the story was given publicity that William J. McDonald and Max Shoolman, real estate operators, are negotiating through the office of T. Dennis Boardman, Reginald and R. deB. Boardman for the purchase of the Young's Hotel building, owned by the Fifty Associates. This property is assessed at \$1,650,000, and it is reported that the price agreed upon is \$750,000. The transaction has not been completed by the actual transfer of title.

No estimate of the cost of a new city hall has been prepared, for no preliminary drawings have been made. Superintendent Rourke, commenting on construction costs, remarked that the New Parker House was constructed at a cost of \$1 per cubic foot and that it would be possible to construct a similar building now for forty cents a cubic foot.

Post 8/26/32

# FIN. COM. BLASTS FIRE APPARATUS

## Ads for Bids on \$40,000 Purchase Public But Four Days---Type Is Made by One Concern Only

Accusations that the city administration was attempting to purchase, without proper advertising and open competition, \$40,000 worth of unnecessary fire apparatus from the favored American LaFrance and Foamite Industries, Inc., which has had a monopoly on the fire engine contracts here for the past 16 years, were contained in a Finance Commission report issued last night by Chairman Frank A. Goodwin.

### TOO SHORT FOR COMPETITORS

The report protested that the bids are scheduled to be opened today at noon, although the contract was advertised to the public only four days ago, not enough time to permit competitors to step into the field. Furthermore, the report contended that the specifications called for apparatus that was manufactured by but one concern, the American LaFrance group.

For this reason the Finance Commission called upon the Mayor to cancel the request for bids today and, unless he considers the new apparatus absolutely necessary, to postpone the purchase until "more prosperous times."

### Benefit by Open Competition

The commission recalled that several times in the past two years it had recommended the abandonment of the policy established in 1916 of standardizing the fire department equipment by making all purchases of apparatus from the American LaFrance interests. Since that time great changes had been made in the manufacture of fire apparatus, the commission stated, asserting that the city would now benefit by open competition.

"The time allowed between the appearance of the advertisement and the time when the bid must be submitted was entirely too short," the commission reported, "to obtain wide publicity and competition."

### Made by Only One Concern

"The advertisement, however, contained a more serious objection than this lack of sufficient time. The type of apparatus, which it described as that which the city wanted bids on, is manufactured by only one concern and that is the American LaFrance and Foamite Industries, Inc., which has had a monopoly on the sale of fire apparatus to

the city of Boston since 1918.

"It would seem to the Finance Commission that the city officials responsible for the specifications must have known that only one concern manufactured the type of apparatus described and, therefore, when these officials advertised for bids, according to those specifications, they were deliberately attempting to make it appear that they were complying with the widespread demand for competition for city contracts.

### Question Actual Necessity

"The Finance Commission recommends that your Honor cancel the request for bids under this specification. In addition, the question is raised by the commission's consulting engineer, Guy C. Emerson, as to the actual necessity for purchasing any apparatus at this time.

"The commission, therefore, also recommends that if your Honor feels there is such urgent need for this apparatus that the purchase of it cannot be postponed until more prosperous times, at least specifications on which bids are solicited should be wide enough to permit the many responsible concerns manufacturing high-class fire apparatus to compete for the order."

Officials of the fire department last night declined to discuss the Finance Commission report in the absence of Fire Commissioner Edward F. McLaughlin, who is on a three weeks' vacation in Italy.

### TRANSCRIBER 8/26/32 Do We Need a New City Hall?

Has Boston any urgent need of a new city hall? Suddenly confronted by the glimmer of a new fifteen-story building rising on the site of the old, that is the question of first concern. And first thought on the issue leads distinctly toward the word "No." The existing city hall and annex seem sufficient at least to spread a roof over nearly all the regular departments and bureaus of the city government. The School Buildings department is housed in a separate building, but nevertheless one which the municipality already owns. It has, therefore, no rent to pay. The School Committee is in separate quarters, and probably should always remain so for functional reasons, whether in the building now rented or in some structure of its own to be built in the distant future. The Finance Commission has rented offices, across the street from city hall. It might well be even more detached, both physically and in independence of mind, in view of its charter-duties to serve as Critic Laureate of Boston's municipal government.

The law department, on the other hand, really belongs in City Hall for good reasons of efficiency and convenience; but it is in the building at 11 Beacon street owned by the city, and used by the schoolhouse construction commission. The Transit Department also has "outsidé" quarters. But except for these two cases, no other important instances appear, at first survey, as greatly needing to be drawn into unity with Boston's regular offices at City Hall. In short, the situation for the city is not at all the same as that which existed for the State twenty years ago, when, before the new wings of the State House were built, overflow departments and divisions of the Commonwealth's government were scattered through rented quarters all over Boston.

Urgent needs for a new city hall rising to fifteen stories, therefore, seem not very imminent. The demands of future growth are, of course, another question again. But now is a time when expenditure for future expansion sits very ill indeed atop a swollen tax-rate and a tremendous pressure of cost for public welfare relief work. The usual arguments can be made, it is true, as to the inexpensiveness of building now. These arguments are sound but irrelevant if the money is to be spent for a purpose not itself pressingly needed. If Boston is now to lay out some millions of dollars for a new public building, then one distinct need already stands agreed, and that is for a new courthouse. Of the five or six million which this would cost, the city would have to supply two-thirds. That project has priority in fact, and might we keep priority, we believe, in public

AMERICAN

8/26/34

## TAKING THINGS FROM THE MAYOR



JUAN ZABALA

MAYOR CURLEY

JOE LEVIS

### *Marathon Star Runs Off With Mayor Curley's Cartoon*

An Olympic atmosphere was noted at City Hall today when two Olympic stars dropped in to call upon Mayor James M. Curley.

Juan Carlos Zabala, winner of the Olympic marathon, and Boston's own Joe Levis, the Dorchester boy who put the U. S. into the fencing championships for the first time in Olympic history were received by the mayor.

Levis, in recognition of his prowess with the foils against swordsmen of the world was presented with a large silver loving cup by Mayor Curley.

Zabala was given a souvenir of his visit to City Hall, too. His eye happened to light on a cartoon of

Mayor Curley and the mayor forthwith took the picture off the wall and presented it to the Argentinian marathon runner.

Levis will be given a reception at his home in Dorchester today.

Paavo Nurmi, the famous Finnish runner, is also in town. Hugo Quist, his pilot, says the Flying Finn is here in an endeavor to get the permission of the N. E. A. A. U. to compete against Zabala in the marathon at Rockingham Park, Salem, N. H., next Sunday.

8/26/32

# CURLEY HAS PLAN OF NEW CITY HALL 15 STORIES HIGH

Would Start on Present  
Site Next Year—Bond  
Issue Needed

## YOUNG'S PROPOSED AS TEMPORARY HOME

McDonald and Shoolman  
Buy Old Hotel Property  
—To Lease to Boston

A new 15-story City Hall to be erected on the site of the present municipal building in School street is a major administrative object which Mayor Curley will endeavor to achieve next year as the climax of his mayoralty service of 12 years.

In hope of legislative authorization of a bond issue for several million dollars essential to the financing of a construction project estimated to require two years, tentative plans have been made to establish a temporary City Hall in old Young's Hotel, which has just been purchased by William J. McDonald and Max Shoolman.

Though the transaction, revealed yesterday, has not been completed by the actual transfer of title to the property, owned by the Fifty Associates and of an assessed valuation of \$1,650,000, it is reported that the price agreed on is \$750,000.

The prospect of acquiring the city as a tenant for two years after the old hotel is vacated by the departments of the federal government when the new federal building is completed is believed to have hastened the purchase by Messrs. McDonald and Shoolman, who are among the leading Boston real estate operators.

### TO PREPARE DRAWING

Superintendent of Schoolhouse Construction Louis K. Rourke and Building Commissioner Edward W. Roemer have been instructed by the mayor to prepare, without cost to the city, a preliminary drawing of the new building which the mayor considers will fill all municipal needs.

The experts, who are expected to reduce to a completed sketch the outline of the proposed building, will show a City Hall covering far more area than

the present building. It has been suggested by the mayor that it will be economical to eliminate practically all the plaza outside the present hall.

The mayor is moved by a desire to sponsor a building of ornate external appearance but conforming somewhat closely to the layout of the modern office structure.

His plan calls for a building of adequate floor space to house every department, except the school department, which occupies a Beacon street building owned by the city.

The orders issued to Supt. Rourke and Commissioner Roemer disclose the abandonment by the mayor of his much discussed plan of a civic centre in the South end, with a new City Hall the outstanding unit of a group of buildings.

Suggestions of the establishment of such a centre have developed into definite recommendations by the city planning board and architectural experts not identified with the city. Each proposal has suggested benefits to result from the creation of a civic centre which would wipe out an unsightly part of the South end.

Several locations have been broached but the plan has never advanced beyond initial consideration. It has been presumed that the idea had been laid aside pending an improvement in business.

It was said last night that Mayor Curley now holds the opinion that it would be disadvantageous to the future of the city to discard the present City Hall and the adjacent annex erected during the administration of ex-Mayor John F. Fitzgerald and transfer the seat of the local government to a less accessible site in the South end. He also holds that a 15-story building, properly planned on known departmental needs, will cost far less than the estimated outlay of \$10,000,000 for a South end centre.

The mayor's desire to be remembered as the sponsor of a new City Hall will fail of realization unless the Legislature is impressed with the desirability of replacing the present hall next year.

In anticipation of opposition to the mandatory bond issue it is intended to impress on the Legislature that the cost of rental of quarters in private buildings for departments for which accommodations cannot be furnished in the present hall or the annex justifies an immediate start upon a hall of adequate size.

The law department, the transit department and the department of school buildings are the principal branches of the government housed outside of City Hall.

In the furtherance of his plans the mayor has called on the two recognized experts in building construction available to him for assistance. Supt. Rourke is considered an expert designer of buildings and supervises the planning and construction of all school buildings. Commissioner Roemer has been identified with construction for many years and is intimately versed in problems which the planning of a new City Hall will create.

# YOUNG'S HOTEL AS ANNEX TO CITY HALL

Mayor Curley Studies Plan to  
House There Departments  
Now Scattered About City

Instead of building a new City Hall, Boston will probably take a portion of old Young's Hotel as a new City Hall annex, the Boston Evening American learned today.

Basis for the rumors that Mayor Curley was planning a new 15-story City Hall on the site of the present building and that the city departments would be grouped in Young's Hotel during the two-year course of construction appears to be a survey now being conducted by Building Commissioner Roemer with regard to the advisability of grouping in the hotel all departments now outside City Hall.

These departments, which include law, school, park, transit and traffic are now scattered in various other buildings. The purpose of grouping them in the hotel is for cheaper rent and easier accessibility.

### CURLEY ASKS REPORT

Mayor Curley requested Roemer to study the situation some time ago and the building commissioner will make his report, believed favorable to the plan, on Tuesday.

The mayor said he had no definite plans for any City Hall, but if one were started during his administration it would be because continued depression and unemployment warranted a big building construction project.

The Young's Hotel property has just been acquired by William J. McDonald and Max Shoolman in one of a series of large real estate transactions.

### TO IMPROVE PROPERTY

A corporation has been formed called the Y. H. Co. Winthrop R. Scudder is president; Bernard Goldfine, treasurer, and Fred L. Metzler and Shoolman, directors. The property will be improved when the federal courts move into the new postoffice building.

The Fifty Associates, from whom Young's Hotel was acquired, have bought the Province Building, 315-335 Washington st., in a \$4,000,000 transaction engineered by McDonald, Goldfine and Shoolman.

The three operators secured the building from the Olympia Realty Co., which built it 10 years ago. It has a total assessment of \$2,500,000.

Globe

8/26/32

# REPORT WILL AID PLAN FOR A NEW CITY HALL

## Could Put Offices in Old Hotel Roemer to Tell Mayor

Building Commissioner Edward W. Roemer said this morning that he will report to Mayor Curley at 10 o'clock that there is plenty of room in the old Young's Hotel building to accommodate the departments now housed in City Hall.

He declined to make any further statement, beyond admitting that he had been asked to make a survey of the space in the old hotel building, or to verify the report that Mayor Curley has in mind the erection of a new 15-story City Hall on the present site.

It seems perfectly clear, however, that such a survey would not be made unless some such project was planned. The report is that the Mayor has come to the conclusion that it would be better to erect a new City Hall which has long been talked of on the present site and continue to utilize the City Hall Annex Building than to erect a new structure at some other location as a part of an elaborate city center. This project to be located somewhere in the South End has been talked of for some years.

It is said that well-known real estate dealers have bargained for the transfer of the old hotel building from the Fifty Associates who now own it and that they are looking forward to the idea that the city might occupy it as a temporary home for city departments for a couple of years while the new structure is being erected, if the project goes through.

It is said the Mayor has in mind a building which would not only be 15 stories high but would occupy more ground space than the present City Hall, taking up a considerable part of the space in the present plaza.

It is understood that a bond issue would be asked of the Legislature and that one of the arguments in its favor would be that it would save considerable money which would otherwise be required for rental for some city departments if a new building of considerable capacity is not provided.

that they were complying with the widespread demand for competition for city contracts.

The Finance Commission recommends that Your Honor cancel the request for bids under this specification.

In addition the question is raised by the commission's consulting engineer as to the necessity for purchasing any apparatus at the present time. His report discussing this phase of the situation is attached.

The commission therefore, also, recommends that if Your Honor feels there is such urgent need for this apparatus that the purchase of it cannot be postponed until more prosperous times, at least specifications on which bids are solicited should be wide enough to permit the many responsible concerns manufacturing high-class fire apparatus to compete for the order."

### MAYOR BREAKS SOD FOR GERMANTOWN PLAYGROUND

At largely attended exercises yesterday afternoon Mayor Curley turned the first sod for the new public playground at Germantown, near the Dedham line, in West Roxbury. The Mayor, introduced by William Agnew, president of the Germantown Citizens' Association, spoke briefly.

Park Commissioner William P. Long also gave a brief talk. He was introduced to the gathering by Arthur L. Staneck, past president of the citizens' association.

Fritz Ebert, long a resident of the Germantown district, presented the Mayor a nickel-plated shovel with which he broke ground for the new playground.

### ASKS CURLEY HALT BIDDING

### Fin Com Sees Move to Favor One Firm

### Finds Specifications Bar Other

### Fire Apparatus Makers

Protesting against "another attempt on the part of officials of the city to favor a particular concern with a large contract," the Finance Commission yesterday sent a letter to Mayor Curley, asking him to cancel the request for bids, to be received today, for the purchase of about \$40,000 worth of fire apparatus.

An advertisement appeared in the edition of the City Record, which reached the public only last Monday informing the public that the Supply Department would receive bids tomorrow noon for the contract to sell the city about \$40,000 worth of fire apparatus.

Obviously, the time allowed between the appearance of the advertisement and the time when the bid must be submitted was entirely too short to obtain wide publicity and competition.

The advertisement, however, contained a more serious objection than this lack of sufficient time. The type of apparatus, which it described as that which the city wanted bids on, is manufactured by only one concern and that is the American LaFrance and Foamite Industries, Inc., which has had a monopoly on the sale of fire apparatus to the city of Boston since 1918.

"It would seem to the Finance Commission that the city officials responsible for the specifications must have known that only one concern manufactured the type of apparatus described, and therefore, when these officials advertised for bids, according to these specifications, they were deliberately attempting to make it appear

### Post HUB BORROWS

\$3,000,000

### Gets Short Loan at 1.87 Interest Rate

The city of Boston, through City Treasurer Edmund L. Dolan, with the approval of Mayor Curley, yesterday borrowed \$3,000,000 in the form of a temporary loan until Oct. 7, from the First National Bank of Boston at an interest rate of 1.87 per cent, plus a \$5 premium.

The Bankers Trust Company of New York offered the money at 1.98 per cent, and the Shawmut Corporation of Boston put in a bid of 2.14 per cent, so the entire issue went to the First National in a single certificate of \$3,000,000. This makes a total of \$31,000,000 which the city has borrowed this year in anticipation of receipts from the 1932 taxes at an average rate of 2½ per cent.

8/26/32

# FIN COM MOVES TO HALT AWARD

Tells Mayor Bids for \$40,000 Purchase Are Drawn To Favor One Firm

## DOUBTS NEED OF FIRE APPARATUS NOW

Charging that specifications for fire apparatus for which bids are scheduled to be opened today at noon were deliberately prepared to assure the award of a \$40,000 contract to the American La France and Foamite Industries, Inc., which has supplied Boston with apparatus for nearly 16 years, the finance commission yesterday advised Mayor Curley to reject any bid which is submitted and to consider further the need of purchasing apparatus at this time.

Mayor Curley said last night that no bids had been received as yet and explained that the American La France Company had supplied all the fire apparatus in Boston because its machines complied most closely with standardized specifications drawn up by a board of experts from M. I. T. under Mayor Peters 16 years ago.

Only two concerns now manufacture apparatus of the type required, he said, and the machines of the La France concern have been found most suitable because of their lightness.

### CALLS FOR SPECIAL APPARATUS

In the invitation to manufacturers to file bids for furnishing two 1000-gallon pumper and an 85-foot aerial ladder, the commission charges, the specification demanding V type 12-cylinder motors of not less than 225-horsepower, calls for apparatus which is built only by the American-La France Company.

For three years the commission has been trying, without success, to break the monopoly which has repeatedly been the subject of the attention of the commission; but despite the demand for the adoption of a policy which would permit all apparatus manufacturers to compete for Boston contracts, no official attention has been given to it.

In a communication to Mayor Curley yesterday, the commission stressed its long-standing opposition to the system of purchasing apparatus and asserted that "the circumstances under which bids for this contract were solicited have convinced the finance commission that it was not the intention of the administration to obtain wide competition."

The question of the need of any apparatus was raised by the commission on the opinion of its consulting engineer, Guy Emerson, who declared, in a report also forwarded to the mayor, that a thorough examination had failed to reveal any actual need of new pumpers and ladder trucks.

To the mayor the commission said: "The commission recommends that if your honor feels there is such urgent need for this apparatus the purchase of it cannot be postponed until more prosperous times, at least specifications on which bids are solicited should be

wide enough to permit the many responsible concerns manufacturing high-class fire apparatus to compete for the order."

The invitation to manufacturers appeared for the first time in the City Record last Saturday and the fact that but four days, because the Record is not available until Saturday afternoon were given bidders to prepare proposal is held by the commission to be at least basis for suspicion.

## REPAVING IS ORDERED IN 5 THOROUGHFARES

Replacement of granite and wood block paving in five important streets was ordered by Mayor Curley yesterday. Dorchester avenue from Charles street to Savin Hill avenue, Norfolk street from Talbot avenue to the railroad, Broadway between Washington and Stuart streets, Neponset avenue from King square to Minot street and Church street from Stuart to Tremont street are to be paved with asphalt.

*Post*

### NOT THE TIME

It is a question whether Boston needs a new City Hall, or even a new City Hall annex, at the present time, as suggested by the Mayor. At some time in the future a new building, erected on the present City Hall site, may be feasible. But at the present time the emergency is not great.

If we are to build a new City Hall some years from now, we hardly need an annex, for a new main structure would cover all the city needs.

There are so many pressing uses for the money of the city just now that it would not seem the proper thing to devote so much money toward an extension of City Hall. Even if the city was greatly pressed for room, which it is not, there is a large amount of vacant office space, all around City Hall, available at extremely low rentals.

# ELECTION BOARD DEMANDS PROOF

Takes up G. O. P. Charges Of Irregular Appointments

The city election commission at its meeting yesterday called on a special committee of the Republican city committee to prove its charges of irregularities in the appointment of election officials in Boston.

Two of the special committee, Herman Hormel and Charles H. Innes, replied last night that they would be glad to prove every statement made by them in a letter received by the election commission yesterday upon the return from out of town of Senator Henry Parkman, Jr., the third member of the committee.

The election commission at its meeting yesterday set 2 o'clock this afternoon as the time for the Republican committee to go to City Hall to prove its charges of attempts to "pack" the personnel of election officials with Democrats and "Curley Republicans."

Although Mr. Innes said he will be present this afternoon, Mr. Hormel said the special committee will not act as a whole to prove its charges until the return of Senator Parkman next week.

### CAST DOUBT ON DOCUMENT

In a statement given out yesterday after receiving the blunt charges from the special Republican committee, the election commissioners sought to cast doubt on the authenticity of the document by pointing out that all three signatures were apparently forged because they were all in the same handwriting.

Last night, Mr. Hormel verified the document as coming from the Republican committee and explained that Mr. Innes and Senator Parkman had authorized him over the telephone to sign their names after they had examined copies.

The battle grew out of the proposal of Mayor Curley to save the city \$15,000 by appointing recipients of municipal aid to serve gratis as election officials, a plan which was subsequently declared illegal by Samuel Silverman, corporation counsel.

The Republican city committee immediately appointed the special committee to protest the plan and also other alleged irregularities of the election commission.

The committee charged that Democratic voters on changing their enrollment have been directly appointed to serve as Republican election officers, although the law requires a lapse of 30 days, and that a member of the election commission boasted that none but "Curley Republicans" would be appointed.

In a statement made last night, Mr. Hormel said, "These abuses have been going on for some time and if the election commission wants proof we may be able to prove plenty more in addition to the charges we have made in writing."

TRANSCRIPT

## **Mayor Welcomes Joe Levis Back from Olympics**

**Fencing Star Placed Highest of Any American in History of International Contests**

## **Predicts Great Future for U. S. in Fencing**

**Believes America Can Eclipse Europeans at Their Own Sport at Berlin in 1936**

**By LeRoy Atkinson**

As an official member, apparently, of the greeters' committee for returning Olympic heroes we hereby pronounce the return of Joseph Louis Levis as the best home-coming of any New Englander to date. Arriving this morning on the 9.45 train from Springfield, where he spent last night resting up for today's festivities, the greatest fencing star in the history of American Olympic competition, stepped off the train steps into a reception that bids fair to last a couple of days if not a week. The Italo-American delegation caused the train shed at the South Station to vibrate with lusty cheers and the enthusiastic welcome on the part of the feminine Italo-American greeters (mostly relatives, Joe was careful to explain) left the bystanders green with envy.

From the South Station Levis and his army of admirers were whisked, in official city of Boston automobiles with motorcycle police guard, to the city hall where Mayor James M. Curley gave the American fencing star a beautiful silver trophy capable of holding several gallons of the best Italian wine. Juan Zabala, the tiny Argentine marathon champion, was in the mayor's office at the time but the gallery was entirely and vociferously pro-Levis.

It was almost noon-time before the Levis family and all the relatives left the city hall, and then a cavalcade of eleven automobiles and three motorcycle policemen dashed out to 30 Bellevue street in Dorchester where chickens and turkeys and fruit and enough eatables to fill an army of fencers sagged the tables. In true Italo-American fashion, Joe's health was toasted by each newcomer and this right merry time will go down in Joe's memory as one of the happiest and most hilarious moments of his life. It isn't often that one turns a trick such as Joe turned in the Olympic competition at Los Angeles this summer.

TRAVELIER

8/26/32

## **SEES CITY HALL SAVING MONEY**

### **Mayor Curley Planning a New Building to House All Departments**

Mayor Curley today admitted that he is seriously considering the erection of a new City Hall upon the site of the present municipal building.

Before his departure next week upon a political speaking trip which will extend until Oct. 1, he expects to receive from Building Commissioner Edward W. Roemer and Superintendent of Schoolhouse Construction Louis K. Rourke, data which he has asked them to assemble about the construction project which he has practically decided to ask the Legislature to approve next year.

In explanation of his interest in the erection of a new hall, which he tentatively plans to be a 15-story building flush with the School street sidewalk and occupying every foot of the present City Hall plaza, he emphasized the heavy annual saving in the rental of outside office space as well as the contribution to the relief of unemployment which the erection of a building costing several millions of dollars would produce.

It is the mayor's plan, if he carries out his tentative plans, to utilize the old Young's Hotel building as a temporary City Hall during the two years that the proposed building is in construction.

The hotel was purchased yesterday by William J. McDonald and Max Shoolman, prominent real estate operators who are credited with knowledge of the mayor's building project.

In confirming the story about the new municipal building, the mayor admitted that he had delegated to Rourke and Roemer the work of ascertaining how much money is annually paid for rental of offices for departments not now housed in city buildings; how much a new City Hall will cost and the preparation of a preliminary sketch of a building which will conform with the instructions he has given about the type and size of a structure he believes will serve the city for generations.

"You know the present City Hall was built in 1866 in a period of depression when the city had no money," added the mayor.

## **POLICE OBTAIN WELFARE DATA**

**Mayor's Representative Ends Friction—Hultman Defers Statement**

Friction between the Boston public welfare department and the police, resulting from criticism of welfare administration implied by police disclosures of fraud among those receiving aid, was eliminated yesterday by a liaison man for Mayor Curley, and the police obtained the information which was refused them Thursday by the welfare department.

The delay of the welfare department in co-operating with the police, however, hampered the work of police officials checking reports on individual investigations of relief cases, and pending the completion of this work Commissioner Hultman delayed commenting on the entire police welfare investigation in a statement he had promised to make yesterday.

While the police were obtaining case data and history from the welfare department records yesterday, other policemen assigned to case investigation from the various stations continued to turn up further instances of relief grafting.

Cases in which welfare funds were being collected in the name of persons long since dead, in which both husband and wife have been granted aid under different names, and instances of relief received by persons giving addresses at which they never lived or have not lived for years were among those investigators reported.

Other developments yesterday in the welfare situation included a near riot at the city woodyard in Hawkins street, West end, where communists attempted by speeches and literature to recruit persons cut off from the list as unworthy. The police quickly broke up the harangue and arrested two persons, one for distributing handbills without a permit and the other for attempting to rescue the first man arrested.

Those arrested were Morris Lieberman, 30, of 664 Shawmut avenue, Roxbury, on the charge of distributing handbills, and Arthur Johnson, 22, a Negro, of 137 Sterling street, for interfering with an arrest.

The credit for patching up the difficulties between police officials and the welfare department was given to Frank Howland, who is Mayor Curley's representative at the welfare bureau. His efforts, plus the assurance of Simon Hecht, chairman of the welfare overseers, that every co-operation would be given the police, ironed out the situation. Later Thomas Goode, deputy police superintendent, Capt. Stephen J. Flaherty and others obtained the information they desired at the welfare headquarters.

The conviction of a thief accused of stealing from lockers at the L street baths in South Boston district court yesterday disclosed another unworthy recipient of aid, when Lawrence Lehan, 26, of West Fifth street, South Boston, was given three months' probation for larceny. He was on the welfare list.

In addition to the police discoveries of aid being granted in the name of persons long since dead, or giving false addresses, Joy street police received a complaint that the son of a West end peddler who is working receives aid.

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# MAYOR GREETS OLYMPIC STARS, LEVIS AND ZABALA



OLYMPIC STARS RECEIVED BY MAYOR CURLEY

Left to Right—Alex Sterling (foster father of Zabala), Albert Levis (father of Joseph Levis), Joseph Tomasello, chairman of reception committee; Juan Zabala of Argentina, Olympic Marathon champ; Mayor Curley, Joseph Levis, who won second place in Olympic fencing, and Mrs Albert Levis (Joseph's mother).

Two distinguished athletes who made good in the Olympics, called on Mayor Curley at City Hall today. They were Joseph L. Levis of Dorchester, runner-up in the individual foils championship at Los Angeles, and Juan Zabala of Buenos Aires, who won the Olympic Marathon. Zabala is in Boston to run in the Marathon at Rockingham Park Sunday.

The athletes and an admiring assemblage of about 50 men and women

crowded the Mayor's office while the chief executive of the city congratulated both Levis and Zabala. They were presented to Mayor Curley by Joseph Tomasello. Mayor Curley presented Levis a silver loving cup and Zabala a picture that had long graced the Mayoral outer office. The Mayor did not expect that Zabala was to call on him today and had to look hurriedly for some token to present the visitor. As the Mayor handed the picture to Zabala he laughingly commented:

"This is a picture of the greatest Marathon I ever ran." The picture was a cartoon of Mayor Curley in one of his victory demonstrations.

Claudio J. Loria, consul of Costa Rica, represented the Argentine consul. Levis was accompanied by his parents, Mr and Mrs Joseph Levis and his brother, Joseph Levis, and Zabala was accompanied by his foster father, Alex Sterling. Mayor Curley presented the 50 or 75 Italian enthusiasts with the fencing runner-up beautiful pictures of George Washington, each bearing his signature.

## HIS HONOR GREETS OLYMPIC WINNERS



Mayor James M. Curley greeted Juan Zabala of Argentina (left), winner of the Olympic marathon championship, who will run at Rockingham Park on Sunday, and Joseph Levis, of Dorchester, who was second in the Olympic foils, at City Hall today. Levis was given a royal welcome home by Italian-Americans in this city. Levis did better in his event than had any other American in the Olympic games and was awarded a handsome trophy. Zabala was awarded a framed cartoon.

## AMERICALLY CITY BORROWS DEMOCRATS TO \$3,000,000 LIST 325,000

The city of Boston, through City Treasurer Edmund L. Dolan, with the approval of Mayor Curley, has borrowed \$3,000,000 in the form of a temporary loan until Oct. 7, from the First National Bank of Boston at an interest rate of 1.87 per cent, plus a .5 premium.

The Bankers Trust Company of New York offered the money at 1.98 per cent, and the Shawmut Corporation of Boston put in a bid of 2.14 per cent, so the entire issue went to the First National in a single certificate of \$3,000,000.

This makes a total of \$31,000,000 which the city has borrowed this year in anticipation of receipts from the 1932 taxes at an average rate of 2½ per cent.

The Democratic City Committee will open headquarters in Hotel Touraine tomorrow and from that place will direct an intensive campaign to bring the total number of registered voters in this city up to 325,000, an increase of 25,000 over the 1928 registration figures.

Funds to defray cost of conducting such a drive were today turned over to Daniel J. Chapman, chairman of the city committee, by Joseph A. Maynard, chairman of the State committee, and are part of the contribution made recently to the Roosevelt campaign committee by Mayor Curley.

Mayor Curley stated that if the goal of 325,000 is reached every Democrat on the ticket will be swept into office.

## RECORD Says \$40,000 City Contract Bid 'Thrown'

An attempt on the part of officials of the city of Boston to throw a \$40,000 contract for fire apparatus to one concern without competitive bidding was charged by the finance commission yesterday in a report to Mayor Curley. The commission recommends that Mayor Curley cancel the request for bids which are to be opened today. It states that only the American LaFrance and Moamite Industries, Inc., supply the type of apparatus described in the specifications.

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## CURLEY LAYS CORNER STONE

### Seventh Health Unit at Roxbury Crossing

The corner stone of the seventh health unit of Boston provided by the will of the late George Robert White, was laid just after noon today by Mayor James M. Curley in ceremonies at the building which is now in process of construction on Whittier st, Roxbury Crossing. Mayor Curley was late in arriving, but just as soon as he reached the scene Lieut Gen Edward L. Logan, manager of the fund, started the program on its way.

Gen Logan paid tribute to George R. White and spoke of the great blessings that the health units already located have been in the communities in which they are located. He presented Rev William J. Casey, pastor of St Patrick's Church, Roxbury, who gave the invocation.

Dr Charles F. Wilinsky of the Boston Health Commission told of the real value of the units which have already been operating. He cited examples of improvement in combating disease by showing that in years past there were as many as 1600 who died with tuberculosis each year and the number at last year was reduced to 600.

In diphtheria cases the number of deaths reached an average of 200 in a year and last year, he said there were only nine deaths from this disease. He said that the units are unlimited evidences of wise expenditures in the general health of the city. He paid tribute to the generosity of Mayor Curley in his support of the general plans for the units. Future posterity he said will bless the memory of the benefactor and Mayor Curley and the trustees who have carried out the program so well.

#### Origin of Units

Mayor Curley said that the idea was originated in his mind many years ago that health units should be established. He told of visits he made with George R. White and his arguments to Mr White as to how the people of the city could be benefited. He pointed out the health problems of mothers and children, and he said that he felt that Mr White, who was the biggest real estate owner in Boston at the time, was not interested. Three months later Mr White died, and in his will the Mayor said a provision was made that real estate valued at upwards of \$5,000,000 was placed in trust for the best purposes the city could use the money. The health units came as a result, the Mayor said.

The Mayor said that when the seventh unit is in operation for two years the mortality rate in the city will be improved. He quoted insurance concerns as declaring that two years after this new unit is operating the present death rate will be reduced and it will be possible to save one in every three babies that die today and one in every five of the mothers who die at child birth.

He charged the people that the building is their property. The best service in the world is open to all and there is no class or color line or any

religious prejudice. All are free and equal to profit by the benefits of the new structure. He charged them with responsibility of caring for the property as they would a most treasured relic in their homes. The successful operation he declared means better health for men, women and children in their battle in life.

The Mayor then turned to lay the stone only this time it happened to be stones as a series of limestone bricks were ready to be set in place. Beads of perspiration came on the brow of the Mayor as he sat at the task. He whipped off his coat and then his vest followed and then he rolled his sleeves up to complete the job. He showed his knowledge of brick laying by doing a good job.

A box containing valuable records for future history was placed within the wall and the corner stone. It took the Mayor about 30 minutes to brick in the corner and then the ceremonies were completed with a prayer by Rev Charles R. Winthrop.

Among those on the platform during the exercises were Horace Morison of the Boston Health Department, Herbert Parker, ex-Attorney General, Rev Thomas Reynolds of the Catholic Charitable Bureau, James T. Moriarty, president of Boston Central Labor Union, Dr Patrick J. Foley, Street Commissioner Theodore A. Glynn, Miss Helen Lipps, head nurse at the South End unit, and Dr John H. F. Connor of the South End unit.

## REGISTRATION INCREASED 700, REPORTS CURLEY

Mayor Curley said today that there was an increase of 700 in registration for the coming primaries yesterday. This brings the total up to 1810. Mayor Curley added that he had forwarded his check for the \$500 promised at the Democratic harmony meeting early this week to Joseph A. Maynard, chairman of the State Democratic committee, who will in turn forward it to Daniel J. Chapman, chairman of the Democratic city committee.

Mayor Curley said it is the goal of those interested in the coming primaries to boost the total registration 325,000, or 25,000 more than when Smith was a candidate for President in 1928. He said the intensive work for registration will continue.

## CURLEY ASKED TO SPEAK TO 75,000 AT CHICAGO

Pres William Green of the American Federation of Labor advised Mayor Curley today that he had notified the labor organizations in Chicago that he had personally extended an invitation to the Mayor of Boston to be the principal orator at the Labor Day celebration in Chicago to be held at Soldiers' Field. Pres Green estimated the attendance would be about 75,000. He had also arranged for a half-hour broadcast over one of the most powerful stations in Chicago, which reaches all the Middle Western States, the broadcast to be at 7 p m.

## NO IMMEDIATE CITY HALL PLAN

### Curley Says Expense of Quarters Studied

Commenting on the rumors current that Boston is contemplating building a new City Hall, Mayor Curley said this noon that he had nothing immediate in mind, but that studies were being made so that the city officials would be in readiness if it was decided to embark on any such program.

Mayor Curley said that he had some time ago requested Building Commissioner Roemer and Supt Rourke of the School Building Department to make a study for the purpose of learning just how much was being expended for outside quarters for the housing of city departments.

The Mayor said he also desired to know what quarters were available and what the cost would be if the city was obliged to move municipal departments into temporary quarters while a new City Hall was being built on the present site. He said that he expected the report of the study being made by Commissioner Roemer and Supt Rourke would be submitted to him by next Tuesday.

Mayor Curley said that perhaps it would be good business to erect a new City Hall as a relief measure. He pointed out that the present City Hall was built in 1866, soon after the Civil War and perhaps, he said, it would be advisable to build another new City Hall after the late World War.

This could be done as a relief measure but as yet the Mayor said he had not given any serious thought to the matter other than to express the desire to learn how the city departments could be cared for temporarily in case a new City Hall was agreed on, and to learn what it was costing the city now for outside rentals.

AMERICAN

## Hanlon Appointed Asst. Corp. Counsel

Daniel J. Hanlon, Melville ave., Dorchester, Roosevelt campaign manager in the pre-primary fight of last April, was today appointed assistant corporation counsel of the city at a salary of \$3500 by Mayor Curley.

Post

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# \$4,000,000 TRANSFER PAPERLESS

## Big Real Estate Sale Was Four Years in Making

### Curley Denies Plan to Lease Young's Hotel

Emphatic denial that he planned to lease Young's Hotel for two years as a temporary City Hall, in the event that the city should decide to seek legislative authority to construct a new 15-story building on the present School street site to provide work for the building trades and save the city \$200,000 in outside rentals, was made yesterday by Mayor Curley.

He expressed the belief that the new Postoffice building would not be ready for the federal departments now occupying Young's Hotel until some time after the termination of his administration next year.

A "gentlemen's agreement," under which a \$4,000,000 realty transaction, involving the Province building at 315-335 Washington street, and the Young's Hotel property, now used by the government as a temporary federal building, was consummated, was declared yesterday to be the biggest "paperless" real estate deal in the recent history of Boston business.

### FOUR YEARS UNDER WAY

For four years preparations for the transaction have been "in the making." For six months several firms of lawyers have hunted titles and conducted minor investigations. And not once during that time was it necessary to draw up an agreement until the final papers, filed in the Suffolk Registry yesterday, were signed.

A big boom was seen yesterday with the completion of the deal, which was described by those participating as "an actual sale to investors," and not caused by any financial distress on the part of the holders. The transaction was calculated to spur on other sales in the downtown district.

The first stage in the transaction was the sale of the Province building,

which runs from Washington street to Province street, by the Olympia Realty Company to William J. McDonald, Bernard Goldfine and Max Shoolman, through Kenyon L. Pease. Then the property was re-sold to the Fifty Associates of which Herbert M. Sears is president, Arthur N. Maddison, vice-president, and George L. DeBlois, treasurer. The Fifty Associates are one of the largest owners of real estate in Boston, having holdings in excess of \$10,000,000.

### Built 10 Years Ago

The building is of fireproof construction, with retail stores on the first and second floors, eight stories in height and contains over 500 offices. It was erected 10 years ago by the Olympia Realty Company and is considered by experts to be one of the best of its type in the city. The Woolworth Company occupies part of the ground floor space.

Young's Hotel, with an assessed valuation of \$1,300,000, and used as a temporary Federal building, is located on Court street and Court square, Court avenue and Cornhill court, numbered 22 Court street and 2 to 9 Court square, containing 17,533 square feet of land.

### Plan New Building

A corporation, it was announced yesterday, has been formed and called the Young's Hotel Company. Winthrop N. Scudder is president, Bernard Goldfine treasurer, Fred L. Metzler, director and Max Shoolman director. It was the announced intention of the new corporation yesterday to improve the property with a new building as soon as the Federal Courts vacate it.

### No City Hall Angle

No reference was made in the statement issued to Messrs. McDonald, Goldfine and Shoolman to the reported plans of city officials regarding its use as a temporary City Hall.

Richard de B. Boardman of the office of T. Dennis Boardman, Reginald and Richard B. Boardman represented the Fifty Associates in this transaction. The attorneys representing the Olympia Realty Company, the Fifty Associates and the Young's Hotel Company were Elbridge R. Anderson and Herman A. Mintz.

H E R I T C D

### LAYS CORNERSTONE OF NEW HEALTH UNIT

#### Mayor Officiates at Ceremony in Roxbury

Mayor Curley yesterday noon laid the cornerstone of the seventh health unit provided by the will of the late George Robert White. The building is now being put up at Whittier, Hampshire, Vernon and Downing streets, Roxbury Crossing, and will cost \$58,000.

Guests included Horace Morison of the city health department, former Atty.-Gen. Herbert Parker, the Rev. Thomas Reynolds of the Catholic Charitable Bureau, James T. Moriarty, president of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor; Dr. Patrick J. Foley, Street Commissioner Theodore A. Glynn, Miss Helen Lipps, head nurse at the South end unit, and Dr. John H. F. Connor of the South end unit.

Lt.-Gen. Edward L. Logan, manager of the fund, opened the program. The Rev. William J. Casey, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Roxbury, gave the invocation. Dr. Charles F. Willinsky of the city health commission spoke.

### CURLEY SPEECH

#### Mayor Sharply Criticises Hoover Administration at Democratic Rally in Sanford, Me.—Holds Up Roosevelt as Ideal Candidate for Presidency

SANFORD, Me., Aug. 26 (AP)—President Hoover was described tonight by Mayor James M. Curley, of Boston, as being seemingly "incapable of reaching a conclusion with reference to a policy and adhering to the conclusion when reached."

Mayor Curley sharply criticised the Hoover administration in an address before a Democratic rally here and said that Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, Democratic presidential nominee, has proven himself "a great executive, profound as an economist, and supremely great as a humanitarian."

President Hoover's position on the 18th amendment was pronounced "enigmatical" by Mayor Curley. He said he saw the only hope for repeal in the election of Governor Roosevelt and a Congress favorable to such action.

Referring to the four years of the Hoover administration as the "four saddest years ever known in the history of this or any other country," Curley charged Washington authorities with having failed to prevent the "destruction of American industries" by foreign made products.

"I submit," said Mayor Curley, "that if President Hoover had been in charge of a private enterprise and had made such a complete failure in the conduct of the enterprise that he has made in the office of President, he would have been discharged from the position more than two years ago.

"The real trouble with President Hoover is that he seems incapable of reaching a conclusion with reference to a policy, and adhering to the conclusion when reached. He has consistently followed policies laid down by the banking fraternity of America notwithstanding the fact that the surrender of the government of the United States to this group is unquestionably responsible for the predicament in which America is placed at the present hour."

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## CURLEY IN MASON'S ROLE



Mayor Curley showing the crowd his skill with a trowel at the laying of the cornerstone of the new White health unit at Whittier street, Roxbury. Lieutenant-General Edward L. Logan, retired, at right.

have been more or less restive as the principals have been maneuvering themselves into position for the final drive before the primaries on Sept. 20, look shortly.

Encouraged by recent developments particularly the impetus given to their cause by President Hoover's emphatic stand for a change in prohibition and his forceful leadership in preparation for his "Battle of Soissons" in the drive against depression, the Republican leaders of the State are proceeding with their campaign program with increasing confidence that they will recapture the Bay State citadel.

Their optimism is in marked contrast with the Democrats who are obviously feeling their way cautiously before initiating their campaign here in what many of them privately admit is a most difficult task of trying to establish Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt in the place of affection commanded by former Governor Alfred E. Smith and the equally difficult task of endeavoring to prove that Speaker John N. Garner has a warm spot in his heart for New England.

### Moses Speaks Wednesday

Already well along in their campaign hereabouts, with the record of an overflow meeting in Faneuil Hall, addressed by Secretary of the Treasury Ogden L. Mills, in contrast with the "comfortable" gathering held by the Democrats later on, and a large Fall River meeting at which Assistant Attorney General of the United States Seth W. Richardson chided the Democrats over the "melancholy" endorsement by Governor Ely of the Roosevelt-Garner ticket, the Republicans will again drive home their arguments at a clambake to be given Wednesday at Lincoln Park, Fall River, by the Republican committee of New Bedford. Senator George Moses of New Hampshire will be the stellar attraction at this gathering, and is slated to warm the party workers in the southern section of the State up to a fighting pitch.

In the Democratic camp, the week's activities will start with a luncheon meeting at the Parker House Monday afternoon, at which the chairmen of the six New England Democratic State committees will go over the situation before determining on their line of battle in this section of the country, special consideration being given no doubt to the best way in which to "sell" Garner to the electorate.

The importance attached to these deliberations is reflected in the fact that Senator David I. Walsh, who still concedes that Massachusetts is normally Republican but is making optimistic forecasts for the Democrats in New England, will sit in so that the conferees may have the benefit of his political sagacity. Where the Democrats will start their chief fireworks for New England is now a matter of much speculation.

Discussion with delegation to the Re-

## TRANSCRIPT Another Chance to Sell Boston Fire Apparatus

Bids to Be Readvertised but  
Specifications Will Not  
Be Changed

Boston will readvertise for fire apparatus bids, but there will be no change in the specifications, which, according to the latest report of the Finance Commission, limits bidding to one company, the American La France & Foamite Industries, Inc.

In making the announcement, Mayor Curley exhibited a letter he had sent to Frank A. Goodwin, chairman of the Finance Commission, informing him that he had instructed the superintendent of supplies to reject the lone bid of yesterday and readvertise for proposals to be opened two weeks from yesterday. In a letter to Philip A. Chapman, superintendent of supplies, the mayor expressed

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# CURLEY LAYS CORNERSTONE OF SEVENTH CITY HEALTH UNIT



MAYOR CURLEY LAYS CORNERSTONE OF HEALTH UNIT BUILDING IN ROXBURY. AT RIGHT, GEN EDWARD L. LOGAN

Mayor Curley yesterday laid the cornerstone of the seventh health unit of Boston provided by the will of George Robert White, on Whittier st., Roxbury Crossing. The cornerstone is constructed of bricks and it took the Mayor 30 minutes, in his shirt sleeves and with perspiration pouring down his face, to lay the cornerstone.

The Mayor, in a speech, reviewed the history of the health units and paid a tribute to the memory of the man who made them possible by leaving a large sum of money to the city.

Among the other speakers were

Lieut Gen Edward L. Logan, manager of the White Fund, and Dr Charles F. Wilinsky, of the Boston Health Commission.

On the platform were Horace Morrison of the Boston Health Department, Herbert Parker, ex-Attorney General; Rev Thomas Reynolds of the Catholic Charitable Bureau; J. Arthur Moriarty, president of Boston Central Labor Union; Dr Patrick J. Foley, Street Commissioner Theodore A. Glynn, Miss Helen Lipps, head nurse at the South End unit, and Dr John H. F. Connor of the South End unit.

The new building will cost \$58,000.

# PROVINCE BUILDING, YOUNG'S HOTEL SOLD

Talk of a New City Hall  
Accompanies Big Deal

While talk of a new City Hall for Boston fills the air, one of the largest real estate transactions in the city in years has taken place with the transfer of the Province Building, 315-335 Washington st., and of Young's Hotel, directly across from City Hall Annex, to new owners.

Mayor Curley said yesterday that he has no immediate city hall plan but that he ordered Building Commissioner Roemer and Supt Burke of the School Building Dept. sent to make a study to determine how much was being expended for outside quarters for the housing of city departments.

The Mayor also said that he desired to know what quarters were available and what the cost would be if the city were obliged to move municipal departments into temporary quarters while a new City Hall was being built on the present site. He said that he expected the report by next Tuesday.

Mayor Curley said that it might be a good idea to erect a new City Hall as a relief measure.

The Province Building and its land is assessed at \$2,789,000. The property was sold by Olympia Realty Company to William J. McDonald, Bernard Goldfine and Max Shoolman, through Kenyon L. Pease and then resold to the Fifty Associates, of which organization Herbert M. Sears is president, Arthur N. Maddison, vice-president, and George L. DeBlois, treasurer.

The Young's Hotel property has been owned by the Fifty Associates for more than 50 years and was operated as a hotel for an even longer period. In the sale, the property was transferred from the Fifty Associates to McDonald, Goldfine and Shoolman. A corporation has been formed called the Y. H. Company, of which Winthrop H. Scudder is president, Bernard Goldfine treasurer, and Fred L. Metzler and Max Shoolman, directors. It was announced that it is intended to improve the property with a new building as soon as the Federal courts vacate it.

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# MAINE CROWD HEARS CURLEY

## Record Attendance at Sanford, Me, Opening

### Mayor Praises Coolidge and Assails Hoover as Failure

Special Dispatch to the Globe

SANFORD, Me, Aug 27—Excepting Calvin Coolidge, Massachusetts' favored son, from the criticism that he leveled at post-War Republican Administrations at Washington, Mayor Curley of Boston, in his first speech of the Democratic National campaign before prominent Democrats here tonight, had words of praise for Coolidge. He called him an "able and capable administrator" and a "discreet and sagacious New England Yankee."

Sanford is a Republican stronghold but even the Republicans never saw such a political turnout as there was for the Boston Mayor. It had been planned to hold the rally at the Town Hall but when the Mayor, led by the Campbell drum corps of the Legion Post, had paraded from Central sq to the hall, the crowd of 2500 could not be accommodated.

#### Move Out to Park

It was quickly decided to use Goodall Park, the sports stadium, which is electrically lighted. A stand was put up in front of the bleachers. Mayor Curley was surrounded on the platform by many prominent York County Democrats and one Republican, Selectman J. Armand Gendron. Charles E. Valenty opened the meeting and Judge Lucius B. Swett presided. William Pell of Rhode Island was also scheduled to speak but he did not appear.

The audience interrupted Mayor Curley's speech several times with applause and he was given a long ovation when he finished his address. He spoke more than an hour. After the rally, he was the guest of Democratic leaders at Bauneg Beg Country Club.

#### Declares Hoover Failure

Mayor Curley said that "the ship of State had nearly foundered under the late Warren G. Harding, through abuse of high and honored office by those associated with him in the Administration of the Government," but that Coolidge brought it into "calm water under clear skies."

For President Hoover Mayor Curley had bitter criticism. He said that the depression which started in 1929 was, in his judgment, a preventable depression. He said that if "President Hoover had been in charge of a private

enterprise and had made such a complete failure in the conduct of the enterprise that he has made in the office of President, he would have been discharged from the position more than two years ago."

"The policy of the banking fraternity, as adopted by President Hoover, favored the substitution of the dole for work and wages, notwithstanding the fact that from the beginning of civilization the only answer to unemployment and depression has been work and wages, and now after three years we find him again returning to the original program."

#### Coolidge Control

Talking of the Coolidge Administration, Mayor Curley said:

"The Nation prospered, industry and commerce thrived, and unemployment was at a minimum. The Government was being conducted in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution, for and by the people, and not for any particular element of the people. The skies were clear; there was no cloud visible upon the horizon."

When the internationally-minded groups in America sought to relieve our European debtors of their just obligations, in blunt understandable language, President Coolidge stated America's position, namely, that foreign Nations owed us the money and it was their duty to pay; and apparently this sentiment represented the accepted view of the great majority of the American people."

#### Flooding U. S. Markets

Faced with such a situation, Mayor Curley said that it was difficult for a Democrat to campaign in 1928 with any hope of success. He then told how Republicans had admonished the people that their administrations were synonymous with prosperity in industry, while Hoover claimed that his task was to banish poverty.

The flooding of American markets with foreign-made goods and the destruction of American industries was said by the Mayor to have been a starting point of the depression. He said that "while American industries were slowing up and closing down the country was being flooded with foreign-made goods and no section of America, in the early stages of the depression, suffered in larger measure than did New England."

"The textile industries, which had been the backbone of our industrial life, dispensed with the services of many thousands of employees and entire communities which boasted but a single textile mill were closed and the people without opportunity for employment were obliged to forget their pride and spirit of self-reliance and become objects of charity in a land of plenty."

"The shoe industries met the same fate as the textile industries. There was no attempt upon the part of the authorities at Washington to prevent the flooding of American markets and the destruction of American industries."

#### Incapable of Deciding

Mayor Curley said that as the depression wrought havoc the Republicans took no definite, constructive, courageous plan for relief of the people, but that in 1932, when the Democrats gained control of the House, they proceeded to enact legislation designed to provide relief for the people.

The Mayor said of the President:

"The real trouble with President Hoover is that he seems incapable of reaching a conclusion with reference to a policy, and adhering to the conclusion when reached. He has consistently followed policies laid down by the banking fraternity of America notwithstanding the fact that the surrender of the Government of the United States to this group is unquestionably responsible for the predicament in which America is placed at the present hour."

#### "Roosevelt Means Revival"

Mayor Curley said that the President's position on prohibition is enigmatical to any student of government and that the only hope for the repeal of the 18th Amendment lies in the election of a President with the courage to father repeal and a Congress favorable to such action.

He said that the election of Roosevelt meant "the revival of industry, the restoration of prosperity and the repeal of the most vicious law ever placed on the statute books, the 18th Amendment."

## G. O. P. AND ELECTION BOARD MAKE PEACE

### Meeting at City Hall Ends Precinct Officers Row

The differences between the Boston Election Board and the Republican city committee over alleged irregularities in the appointment of precinct officers were ironed out harmoniously yesterday afternoon at a hearing before the Election Commissioners at City Hall Annex.

It developed that the complainants, a special committee of the Republican city committee composed of Herman Hormel, chairman of the Republican city committee; Charles H. Innes and Senator Henry Parkman Jr. of the Back Bay, was unable to furnish the Election Board with the supporting proof the board demanded of the charges made by the committee in a letter to the Election Commissioners.

Before the hearing had progressed very far it was apparent that the stories of alleged irregularities were without foundation. The result was that when the hearing was over the committee issued a statement to the effect they have never had any complaint to make against the fairness of the Election Board, declaring "They have been most fair and courteous to us individually."

Chairman Peter F. Tague and Election Commissioners Daniel H. Rose and Charles T. Harding emphatically declared that Mayor Curley has never interested himself in the selection of precinct officers, and that the Mayor's recent suggestion of the employment this year of men receiving aid through the Public Welfare Department, was for the purpose of saving the city about \$15,000.

The idea of employing these recipients of city aid was abandoned a few days ago when Corporation Counsel Silverman told the Mayor that it would be a violation of the election laws to use the men in question.

As a result of yesterday's meeting it was agreed that the Election Commissioners will recognize the ward chairmen as proponents of candidates for appointment as election workers and will give consideration to every recommendation regarding the same.

P o s t

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# OPEN FIGHT ORDERED ON ENGINE BIDS

## Mayor Changes Long Fire Department Practice

A free-for-all fight to supply the city with new fire apparatus was ordered last night by Mayor Curley for the first time in 16 years, as a result of the recent criticism hurled at his administration by the Boston Finance Commission, headed by Chairman Frank A. Goodwin.

### BID REJECTED

The bid of the American LaFrance and Foamite Industries, Inc., to supply two pumping engines and an aerial ladder truck at a total cost of \$42,750, was rejected by the mayor after the Finance Commission complained that the specifications called for apparatus manufactured only by that company and other bidders were given only four days in which to study the specifications.

The American LaFrance organization has had a monopoly on the city's fire engine contracts since the administration of former Mayor Andrew J. Peters in 1917, when at the request of the Finance Commission a survey was made by a specially-appointed commission, which recommended the continued purchase of this type of apparatus for the purpose of standardizing the equipment of the fire department.

### Other Firms Eligible

But the Finance Commission contend that recent changes in the manufacture of fire apparatus had placed other firms in the position of bidding for the city's business and so Chairman Goodwin insisted upon the abandonment of the 16-year-old practice for the purpose of obtaining competition and possibly lower prices.

Relying to the criticism of the Finance Commission, Superintendent of Supplies Philip A. Chapman yesterday informed the Mayor that last week represented the first time in history in which the city asked for competitive bids in the purchase of fire apparatus.

### Six Makers Notified

Six leading manufacturers of fire apparatus were notified of the city's intention to purchase two new engines and a ladder truck and not one of them complained against the alleged lack of time in which to make up their bids, Superintendent Chapman stated.

As for the specifications, he said, they had been drawn up by two ex-

perts, Chief Henry A. Fox and Superintendent of Maintenance Edward E. Williamson, who, he said, were interested in the safety of the people of Boston, rather than in the income of any particular fire apparatus manufacturer.

They challenged the report of the Finance Commission, which contended that new apparatus was not needed at this time and might wait the arrival of more prosperous days.

### Cut Expenditures

Ordinarily, they said, the fire department spends \$200,000 yearly on equipment, but because of economic conditions this year, new apparatus costing only about \$40,000 was ordered.

During the depression, they stated, apparatus was needed more than ever, because the demand upon the fire department have increased in large proportions and the number of calls to which the department has responded has been far in excess of any other year in the history of the city.

Whether the Finance Commission will force the fire experts to change the specifications calling for 12-cylinder motors in the new fire apparatus was a question, in view of the fact that the Finance Commission recently recommended this type.

taxable valuation in 1931 was slightly in excess of \$20,000,000,000. A reduction, therefore, of \$1,500,000,000 is equivalent to a reduction of seven and one-half per cent. When the final figures for this year have been determined by the Board of Assessors it will be evident that the reduction in assessed values in this city since 1930 will approximate in excess of five per cent, a showing fairly comparable to that of New York. It is unfair to use the cities of New Bedford and Fall River as examples of what should be done in Boston. The two former cities are admittedly single industrial communities.

With the utter collapse of the textile industry, it is only natural to expect a marked and extreme reduction in the valuations of these two cities. Business and industry in Boston, however, is diversified, and we have not witnessed to any material degree what has taken place in Fall River or New Bedford. Why claim, then, that Boston should keep apace with these two cities in reducing valuations.

### Officials Not Remiss

"It has been charged that the officials of the city have been remiss in the matter of reducing valuations. What are the facts? Last year real estate valuations for the first time since 1879 showed a gross reduction of \$17,600,000. This reduction was offset by gains resulting entirely from new construction of approximately \$5,000,000, so that a net reduction in real estate values as reflected in last year's rate was approximately \$12,600,000. Values in personal property in 1931 reflected a gross reduction of \$2,750,000, which were offset in part by the increase of \$1,300,000, leaving a net decrease in this particular item of close to \$1,500,000. A combination of these figures indicates that a reduction was made last year in the total valuations of the city of over \$14,000,000. Does this bear out the contention city officials have failed to appreciate conditions as they exist in the city? Before answering this question consideration should also be given to the fact that the reductions in values in 1932 will be approximately five times as great as those recorded in 1931.

"In short, the present administration at City Hall has not 'deluded' itself with respect to its proper action in fixing valuations upon which to levy taxes. It has been cognizant for two years at least of the necessity of adjusting valuations, and it has acted conservatively and as scientifically as conditions would seem to warrant. It has co-operated to the best of its ability with the responsible and reputable organizations of the community in this respect. The fact it has refused to be bulldozed and coerced by certain self-seeking individuals and organizations does not support the contention it has failed to take the proper and necessary action in the re-adjustment of property valuations."

# CITY HALL WAS NOT 'DELUDED'

## Fixed Valuations With Judgment, Curley Says

Mayor Curley, always interesting, recently made some comments in connection with the approach of the declaration of the Boston tax rate for 1932.

### QUOTES N. Y. FIGURES

"Considerable importance has been attached to the statement that the city of New York will this year reduce its assessed valuations by \$1,500,000," said the Mayor. "As an isolated figure, this would appear to represent an enormous reduction, but to appreciate the true meaning of this reduction it should be interpreted in its relation to the total assessed valuation of New York. According to the comptroller's report of that city, the

*unit*

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to 24 families who have moved from the addresses to which their aid is being sent.

More than half of the first 500 cases investigated were unworthy.

The police report shows that some of the city's money was paid out for instalments on radios, automobiles and other luxuries by persons supposed to be in desperate need.

### HAVE HARDLY STARTED

As yet, the police have hardly started on the investigation ordered by Mayor Curley, and there remain nearly 20,000 cases, representing 100,000 persons receiving aid, to be studied. Police Commissioner Hultman probably soon will issue his own statement on the results of the survey to date, which is to go first to Mayor Curley.

Officers of the public welfare department asserted yesterday that the expenses of the department are surprisingly low for an organization employing 131 permanent and temporary employees and expending more than \$1,000,000 a month.

The July overhead for the central office, excluding both the Wayfarers' Lodge and the temporary home on Chardon street, was \$22,815.

Total drafts to Aug. 1 have been \$124,214, leaving a balance of \$111,131 for the remaining five months, which will not be sufficient to meet charges based on the July outlay.

To Aug. 1 there has been expended under the heading of central office, including personal service, equipment, supplies and disbursements, \$5,991,228 of a total allocation in the budget of \$9,229,245. This does not include contributions and assessments not figured in the records of the auditor.

The personnel of the department in-

cludes the chairman, Simon E. Hecht; treasurer, Edward H. Willey; secretary, Walter V. McCarthy, and the following overseers: William H. Taylor, John J. Kelley, Mrs. Agnes Parker, Mrs. Margaret J. Geokin, Charles J. Fox, Eva Whiting White, Nathan A. Heller, Mrs. Thomas F. McMahon, Sophie M. Friedman, Morris Bronstein and Charles J. Mahoney.

In addition, there are 53 visitors, including 35 permanent visitors who receive from \$1400 to \$2600 annually; nine temporary visitors and eight temporary junior visitors, receiving from \$1000 to \$1400 annually.

The unemployed council of Boston, a communistic organization, yesterday informed Mayor Curley that on Monday, Aug. 29, at 2 P. M., a delegation will be sent to present to him the "immediate problems and demands of the unemployed workers of Boston."

John King, who represented the council, said in his letter to the mayor that thousands of workers are being intimidated by the police investigation of public welfare cases, that names are being cut from the lists in quantities and that the relief of those whose names remain on the list are being cut to starvation levels.

The city law department, which is conducting an investigation independent of the police, yesterday filed attachment against four married couples with bank accounts who have been receiving aid from the city, making seven accounts attached during the past two days.

The police refused to discuss details of their report, and it was not until it was brought to the attention of the public welfare board yesterday that some of its disclosures were revealed by other sources.

### COMPLIMENTS POLICE

Hale Power, assistant corporation counsel and counsel for the city's public welfare department, declared last night that if the police in their investigation of recipients of city aid are discovering unworthy cases, they are serving the purpose they were asked to serve and are to be congratulated.

At the same time, he said, he doubted they would find evidence for all the allegations of their report.

"Many cases which at first appear to be fraudulent turn out on investigation to be all right," he said. "The police are doing a great service if they are finding really unworthy cases, but let's see their evidence. The board of public welfare has no axe to grind, it works without salary and receives abuse as a reward. If 14 better men could be found to take their jobs, I'm sure the members of the board would be quite willing to give them up."

Asked whether he considered aliens and persons with criminal records worthy of receiving aid from the city, Power pointed out that the code stipulates that "cities and towns shall support all persons in need," without respect to their naturalization or records.

"There's a humane angle to consider there," he added.

HERALD

### IF HE WERE MAYOR

To the Editor of The Herald:

If I were James M. Curley—

I would pause—and think things over.

In this time of economic crisis I would make sure that the manner in which I conducted the city's affairs was without question the right one.

I would not be content, if it were merely the popular one.

I would want to satisfy my own conscience.

I would do some things I did not like to do because they were the right things to do.

I would not abuse those who disagreed with me.

If they were wrong, I would prove to them that they were wrong with unmistakable clarity and logic.

If they were right, I would heed them.

I would be more interested in being right than in merely seeming to be right.

I would maintain an open mind on all things.

I would reduce the taxes of rich men, when the facts demanded it.

I would reduce the pay of public employees, when that was the right thing to do.

I would do the unpopular thing as often as it proved to be the right thing . . .

I would use my gifted voice to help others rather than myself—to influence tomorrow's good rather than today's advantage.

I would sacrifice and submerge my own interests to the common good.

I would be the great man I was intended to be.

I would recognize that there were two kinds of success—that which enriches one's self and that which enriches the community.

Approaching my 60th birthday, I would think more about the latter and less about the former.

I would think less of what they said of me in 1932—and more about what they thought of me in 1982.

I would think of that zero hour when the long parade must pass in swift review.

I would think a great deal in terms of the sweet little fellow with the big white dog.

I would want it so that he could never doubt.

I would want to be sure.

HENRY G. GOMPERTS.

Boston, Aug. 25.

W.M.

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at their homes last night to explain their position or what action they intend to take.

### 130 HOLDERS OF CARDS ARRESTED

Analysis of the first 500 cases shows that during the past six to nine months no less than 130 holders of cards of the public welfare department, entitling them to municipal aid, have been arrested. Checking the names of the persons arrested with the public welfare lists, police investigators were not able to find all the names listed.

One holder of a public welfare card has been arrested 88 times since he started to receive aid, and his name remains on the list. So far as could be learned, the public welfare department has taken no steps to remove from its lists the name of any one of the 130 card holders who have been arrested.

In 71 cases, where there is a basis for criminal fraud action, recipients of aid could be arrested immediately, but no action has been taken.

If, as the police report indicates, from 12 to 15 per cent. of the first 500 cases investigated have been receiving aid from the city by fraud, city officials declared that their conclusion is that \$2,000,000 of the \$12,000,000 expended annually by the department of welfare is being handed out to persons not legally entitled to receive it.

This, they pointed out, is the exact sum given to the department of public welfare from the \$3,000,000 raised in the city by voluntary contribution.

Police investigators believed that the first 500 cases they were asked to examine would constitute a lot carefully selected by the department of public welfare, but their survey disclosed such flagrant examples of fraudulent claims that wholesale prosecutions loomed as a result.

### FAIR AND IMPARTIAL

In their study the police investigators were thoroughly fair and impartial and there has been no criticism since they started their work that they have leaned too far either in protecting the interests of the public welfare department or in trying to create a scandal.

City officials revealed that an attempt was made to keep the progress of the investigation quiet until after the coming elections, or at least until Mayor Curley starts on his western speaking trip.

In 29 cases investigated, the city's aid was being sent to unoccupied houses and stores, thereby concealing the names of the actual recipients.

The police department is not equipped to prosecute the cases of fraud disclosed by their survey, and it was indicated last night that the work probably will be given to some special department of the city.

Other details of the police report which is now in the hands of the department of public welfare were as follows:

At least 35 families allege the amounts they receive from the department of public welfare are smaller than the amounts listed by the department.

Aid has been paid to 20 persons listed as having dependents, although they actually have none.

Doles have been sent to 25 persons with fictitious addresses or to office buildings, vacant lots or unoccupied stores.

Aid has been supplied to 49 persons receiving assistance from other sources, to five non-residents of the city, to seven persons who have died, to 50 persons with bank accounts and

Post

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# HULTMAN TO REPORT THIS WEEK

## Will Give Mayor His Facts on Welfare Fraud Probe

Re-investigation of the 231 suspected frauds out of the first 500 welfare cases probed by the police will be speeded up tomorrow so that Police Commissioner Eugene C. Hultman may be able to make a preliminary report on the situation to Mayor Curley before the latter leaves Thursday for a month's tour of the West.

### CHECKING FACTS

Officials in charge of the first batch of cases stated last night that accurate facts and figures would not be available until the police reports have been compared with the original applications in the files of the public welfare department.

Public welfare officials last night expressed confidence that a re-checking of the suspected cases would reveal that a large number of them were legitimate cases, requiring city relief under the welfare laws.

### Expect Cut in Total

Until the cases have been re-checked, police said, it would be impossible for them to complete their analysis of the first 500 cases with any degree of fairness to the city. Police agreed with welfare officials that there was a strong possibility that the number of suspected cases would be reduced when further facts are brought to light through the public welfare records on the various cases.

Welfare officials stated last night that the police would be provided with all the clerical assistance they desire in their drive to clear up the original batch of cases, so that Commissioner Hultman may make a concrete report to the Mayor early this week.

### Report Very Shortly

Pending the receipt of the facts from Deputy Superintendent Thomas F. Goode, who is in charge of the investigation, the commissioner stated last night that he was unable to announce the day upon which he will report to the Mayor, but it is known that he proposes to send along a preliminary survey on the welfare investigation before the Mayor goes away.

Four married couples, who are alleged to have obtained relief payments from the city fraudulently will be called upon to appear in Central Municipal Court Thursday, when Assistant Corporation Counsel Hale Power will seek warrants for their arrest on charges of larceny.

Bank accounts of the four couples were attached yesterday by Attorney Power preliminary to the criminal proceedings, which will be started this week in conformity with his programme which, during the past year, has resulted in the return of \$25,000 to the city treasury and conviction of at least 40 welfare fakers.

Police of the Roxbury Crossing station yesterday reported that of 10 cases investigated, more than 25 of the welfare receivers possessed police and criminal records.

A  
DVERTISER

# YOUNG'S HOTEL DEAL BIGGEST IN THREE YEARS

With Province Building, Total  
of \$4,000,000 Downtown  
Realty Involved

The sale of the Province Building and the old Young's Hotel in a \$4,000,000 deal marked one of the biggest realty transactions in the city during the past three years.

Discussion in connection with the sale centered on the possibility that the City of Boston may rent a portion of the old hotel to group all departments now located outside City Hall as a measure of economy and accessibility.

A report on a survey now being conducted by Building Commissioner Roemer with regard to the advisability of grouping outside departments is expected on Tuesday.

The effect of such a big transaction on Boston real estate activity is expected to be stimulating, in the opinion of some realty observers.

The Province building, at 315-335 Washington st., running through to Province st., was sold by the Olympia Realty Co. to William J. McDonald, Bernard Goldfine and Max Shoolman through Kenyon L. Pease.

The property was resold to the Fifty Associates, of which Herbert M. Sears is president, Arthur N. Maddison, vice-president, and George L. DeBlois, treasurer.

In the transaction, McDonald, Shoolman and Goldfine also acquired the old Young's Hotel property on Court st. The property is now occupied by the federal courts.

It is the intention to improve the property with a new building when the courts vacate, it was announced by the purchasers.

# CITY TO AUCTION BRIGHTON REALTY

By order of the City Council, approved by Mayor Curley, a tract of land at the corner of Chestnut Hill ave. and Academy Hill, Brighton, will be offered at public auction on Tuesday, Aug. 30, at 11 a. m.

About 14,358 sq. ft. of land are involved in the sale at an upset price of \$1 per foot. Edward W. Foye, municipal auctioneer, announced.

Cash or certified check for \$5000 at the time of the sale and the balance within 30 days are the terms governing the transfer of the parcel.

RECORD 8/29/32

# MAYOR OPENS NEW STORE OF SUMMERFIELD

The opening today at 9 a. m. by Mayor James M. Curley, of the new addition to Summerfield's, at the corner of Washington and Stuart sts. is the culmination of 22 years of successful service by this great organization, catering to the public in an outstanding fashion with a complete line of home furnishings.

The new addition with over 125,000 feet of floor space, almost doubles the size of the store, and is the result of an extensive expansion program, marking the greatest achievement thus far in the progressive growth of Summerfield's, starting in the same general location over 22 years ago.

The grand opening sale today is sponsored by Benjamin Stern, president. The Summerfield organization bought out the Prime Furniture Co. last December.

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Herald

## NEW BIDS ORDERED ON FIRE APPARATUS

Mayor Meets Demand by  
Finance Commission

Expressing the belief that the objections raised by the Finance Commission relative to the advertising of bids for the purchase of Fire Department apparatus, "are perfectly all right," Mayor Curley said he had notified Chairman Goodwin that he had instructed Supt Chapman of the Supply Department to reject bids and re-advertise, the bids to be opened in two weeks.

The bid in question was filed by the American LaFrance and Foamite Company, sole bidder for two pumping engines and one aerial ladder.

Mayor Curley said that by the procedure he has directed the desires of the Finance Commission will be served without injury to the Fire Department.

Supt Chapman, in his report to the Mayor on the objections raised by the Finance Commission, said in part:

"Relative to the objection that the type of apparatus specified was manufactured by only one concern, there is no way that this could be found out except by inviting bids on the type of apparatus required by the Fire Department. The Fire Department has had 12-cylinder apparatus in service for the past year and it has proved to be so superior to any six-cylinder apparatus, or any apparatus which is not so powerful, that both the chief of the department and the superintendent of maintenance have arrived at a decision that all apparatus purchased in the future should be of this type and horse power.

"The Fire Department is not interested in any particular manufacturer, but drew the specifications in order to secure the most modern type of apparatus known to Fire Department officials.

"Relative to the question raised by the commission's consulting engineer as to the actual necessity of purchasing any apparatus at the present time, the following facts should be taken into consideration: 1. There is an investment of approximately \$2,000,000 in fire apparatus in this city. 2. The average life of a piece of apparatus is 10 to 12 years.

"If the Fire Department equipment is to be kept up to 100 percent efficiency, there should be spent annually at least \$200,000 for replacement and renewal of worn out obsolete apparatus. However, the officials of the Fire Department took into consideration at this time the necessity for retrenching in their expenditures and after a survey had been made of the needs of the department, the annual amount of apparatus ordered was the minimum with which the department could be maintained on an efficient basis and render the necessary service for the protection of the lives and property of our citizens in the districts where the apparatus is to be assigned."

## Relief Cases 12 to 15 P.C. Fraudulent—Police Urge Action

## CHARGE BOARD IS LAX, FAILS TO CO-OPERATE

## Waste Equals Sum Freely Given by Public to Help City Needy

## 130 CARD HOLDERS ARRESTED; ONE 88 TIMES, SAYS REPORT

Nearly \$2,000,000 a year of the city's funds is expended in outright graft by the public welfare department, city officials disclosed last night after a police report of investigations of 500 persons assisted by the department showed that from 12 to 15 per cent. of the cases listed as needy by the department should not receive aid.

Astounding conditions were reported by the police, indicating that no less than 71 of the first 500 cases investigated justify immediate court action on the basis that their claims are outright frauds. The city has been paying 148 persons not deserving of aid and 186 unnaturalized aliens, and 240 of the recipients of aid have not been visited by agents of the department of public welfare for periods varying from three months to two years, according to the report.

City officials revealed also that throughout the investigation members of the board of public welfare have not co-operated with the police, and have caused many delays.

The police are equipped to investigate more cases a day than they have been studying since the investigation was started, but they are constantly held up in their efforts by the slowness of the board of public welfare in supplying them with records, it was learned last night. This was the cause of the last misunderstanding between the board and the police investigators.

Members of the board of public welfare could not be reached

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TRAVELER

# ARREST 4 IN RED RIOT AT CITY HALL

Crowley With 70 Police Quells  
Demonstration for Increase  
in Dole Payment

The "red" element among Boston's unemployed carried its demand for more welfare aid to City Hall today and a more or less peaceful riot resulted.

Two men and two women were arrested in School st. as police reserves dispersed the crowd.

In the uproar and confusion, which saw little violence, it was difficult to differentiate between Communist and spectator, but the active demonstrators appeared to number not less than 50 and not more than 100.

## 70 POLICE AWAIT THEM

Supt. Crowley, 35 uniformed patrolmen and 35 plainclothes officers were awaiting when the demonstrators, gathered at the behest of the Unemployed Council of Boston, 664 Shawmut ave., Roxbury, appeared in front of the hall at 2 o'clock, as publicly planned several days ago.

One youth carried a placard protesting "starvation of the jobless" and nearly all in the group carried handbills protesting the "cutting of relief."

John King, of 42 Silver st., South Boston, led the way to the entrance, which was barred by Sgt. John S. McFarland. King demanded that a committee of 10 be admitted to see Mayor Curley and he was informed not more than three could enter.

## GUARD MAYER'S OFFICE

King's protest over this ultimatum acted as a signal for the beginning of the demonstration. The crowd harranged the police and tossed handbills in the air. All work ceased in City Hall and adjoining office buildings. The uproar drew thousands of spectators who blocked traffic.

Mary Sarian, 25, threw a bunch of flyers into the crowd and started running with a policeman after her. She was seized and arrested after a brief struggle, in which another officer joined, and taken inside city hall. Later she was booked for distributing handbills, and police said she had no permanent home.

## At One Cent Dining Room



Some of the officials attending the official inspection of Boston's new one-cent dining room for the unemployed at 25 Brattle street this noon. Seated, left to right, Annie Poole Attwood, national president of the Women's Relief Corps; Agnes M. Parker, past president of the W. R. C.; Gen. Ballington Booth of the V. of A., the Bernarr Macfadden of New York. Standing, Mayor Curley, Secretary of the Navy Adams, Col. Walter Duncan, New England director of the V. of A., and the Rev. Charles L. Page of Tremont Temple. The restaurant will be open to the public after Labor day.

The others arrested—on charges of failing to obey an officer's order to move along—were:

Arnold Waxman and Mark Lieberman, both giving the Unemployed Council address as their home, and Anna Block, of 1276 Blue Hill ave., Roxbury.

Robert Godfrey of Somerest st. and Joseph Leeds of Washington st., South End, went to the mayor's office with King and waited in an anteroom while Secretary John H. Sullivan took their names, which were sent to the election commissioner's office.

When Mayor Curley finally greeted the committee it was with the knowledge that no member of it was registered as a voter in Boston.

## NO VOTER, NO TALK

"Good afternoon," he said to King. "Where do you vote?" "Roslindale," said King.

"Oh, no you don't," said the mayor.

"Oh, well, what of it?" asked the leader.

"Just this," said the mayor: "We have all we can do to take care of our own citizens. You send in a committee of citizens and I'll talk to them. Now you can go."

AMERICAN

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# CURLEY AND HECHT HOLD AID PARLEY

Welfare Chief Defends Board  
as More Frauds Are Bared  
in Police Inquiry

Disclosures made exclusively by the Boston Evening American Saturday on the results of the police investigation of the first 500 dole cases, showing an alarming condition, led to a conference today at city hall, attended by Mayor Curley, Corporation Counsel Silverman and Chairman Hecht of the welfare overseers.

Chairman Hecht, while refusing a formal statement, saying that would probably come later from the full board, made informal answer to several features of the situation as laid bare by the police.

At least 25 of the 500 persons investigated said they received smaller amounts than the welfare department records show:

To this, Chairman Hecht replied: "In cases where the wife tells investigators that she is getting less money than the welfare department says they are paying her family, the probability is that the husband who collects the money is holding out on his wife, keeping some of the funds for spending money."

## VISITORS IN CIVIL SERVICE

Asked if he considered that anything in the disclosures affected the welfare department's visitors, Chairman Hecht said:

"We have to accept visitors in good faith from the civil service list. They are certified by the civil service commission. We have no reason to suspect them of dishonesty."

Regarding the unworthy cases, he said:

"More than 160 of those cases reported as suspicious are actually aliens. Under the law we have to care for aliens. Therefore the deduction that from 12 to 15 per cent of the first 500 cases are frauds is absurd."

According to the police figures, 35 cases warranted criminal prosecution and 148 more were underserving. There are 186 aliens receiving doles of the 500 investigated, the police found.

It is understood that Chairman Hecht had a formal statement prepared at his office which might be released after the conference in the mayor's office.

## TO PROSECUTE FRAUDS

Atty. William H. Taylor of the welfare board told the Boston Evening American, whose exposure of conditions resulted in the wide investigation of welfare cases, that his department wanted any citizen with information of fraud to produce it.

"We will not tolerate fraud, either within or without the department," said Taylor. "We will investigate every case of fraud presented and will prosecute if fraud exists."

"It's our duty to do that and we will do it. We want the public to have confidence in us. We believe we have done a good job in this emergency."

"I believe there is no fraud in the department. I have the greatest confidence in the personnel of the department, clerks and visitors alike, who have worked heroically during the past three years, without regard for time. They are sincere and well-intentioned persons."

"I can't believe there are any frauds in the department. If any are discovered, we will act immediately. And any frauds among recipients of aid will, of course, be punished, which was what we had in mind when this board requested a special police investigation.

## OTHER FRAUDS LISTED

"We are with the police department 100 per cent in the investigation and no attempts are being made to cover up."

Other results of the police investigation are:

Approximately 20 persons receiving aid for dependents, when actually they have only themselves to support.

Twenty-five persons listed at false addresses. Five cases in which the addresses stated are filling-stations, office buildings, factories or vacant lots.

Fifty or more persons with bank accounts or owning real estate.

Seven dead persons on the welfare list.

Persons receiving income from other sources, 49.

Persons with criminal records, at least 100, or 20 per cent of the cases investigated.

Non-residents of Boston, receiving aid, 5.

More than half the families have not been visited by welfare department agents for several months.

Worthy cases, 269—possibly a dozen more—out of 500.

The report, it is understood, also will touch on ownership of autos and other luxuries, and installment purchases of radios, clothing and household furniture.

One man on the welfare list, Alfonso Duetta, of Fay st., South End, was fined \$20 and sentenced to three months in the House of Correction today for assault and battery on Mrs. Anna Baker, 40, of Fay st. Neighbors said he hit her in the eye with a tomato. Mrs. Baker appeared in court with her eye swollen and discolored.

Thomas Corsi, 38, of Edenfield ave., Watertown, who last week appealed a one month's sentence for larceny of \$570 from the town welfare department, withdrew his appeal in Waltham Court today.

The sentence was then revoked on his promise to pay the money back at the rate of \$2 a week—which will take him five and a half years. Corsi had \$797 in a bank account and owned seven house lots, valued at \$1600 according to testimony at his trial.

Removal of the entire welfare board and every visitor in whose district frauds have been found was demanded today in a public statement by City Councillor John F. Dowd, of Roxbury.

"The recent police investigation of welfare cases, if substantiated, demands more than a mere explanation or whitewash," said Dowd. "The charges of the police department are astounding and indicate not only laxness, inefficiency and carelessness existing there, but also collusion between officials and recipients of aid."

"During the past two years, knowing that this department was conducted in a slipshod manner, I attempted on several occasions to have a sweeping investigation there, which the mayor would not allow.

"This investigation by the police would indicate that at least \$2,000,000 has been paid thus far to unworthy individuals.

"Our laws demand that every recipient of aid be thoroughly investigated before aid is given. If this had been done, there would now be no fraudulent cases for the police to discover."

## "SHOULD REMOVE THEM"

"We are spending \$1,000,000 a month in that department. How can Mayor Curley justify retaining in service the officials and some of the employees of this department?"

"If the report of the police investigators is correct, then the mayor should immediately request the resignations of the entire board and of every visitor in whose district frauds were perpetrated."

Post

8/29/31

# AID HEADS DEFENDED BY MAYOR

**Hardworking, Sincere,  
and Worthy of  
Confidence**

**DENIES \$2,000,000  
YEARLY TO FAKERS**

**Believes Actual Fraud  
Cases Are Few in  
Big Total**

A ringing appeal to the people of Boston to have faith in their city, and especially those officials disbursing welfare funds, lest a false clamor arise and the hungry shall be denied succor; and a flat denial that the public treasury is being looted to the tune of \$2,000,000 a year by welfare sharks, was made last night by Mayor Curley.

Apprehensive over a situation made tense in the last 48 hours because of so-called "inside disclosures" showing fraud of the worst kind to be running rampant, and alarmed over an unauthorized report that the amount being wheedled out of the city treasury by welfare fakes reaches the \$2,000,000 a year figure, the Mayor made his appeal to the citizens.

The Mayor made it plain that his confidence in the Welfare Board, in charge of doling out \$1,000,000 a month to the city's poor and hungry, is implicit. His faith in these men and women, comprising the welfare overseers is such, that he will take no part in joining with inferred demands that city heads step in and do something—and do it quickly.

## Best to Be Found

For his part he will conduct no investigation. His belief, he made it plain, is that these officials are the very best men and women to be found in Boston to carry on the stupendous task of distributing the vast sums to the city's needy, when the facts are considered from every angle.

There is no question, the Mayor stated, but that fraud and deceit and thievery have been practised by underserving people. Sharks and fakes and those who find no shame in mimicking

the forlorn and the hungry in order to receive what amounts to a city "dole" undoubtedly exist in some number.

## No Vast Frauds

But, the Mayor declared, nothing has been brought to light—at least thus far—to establish that such frauds have piled up in tremendous numbers; that the city is paying out as much in relief money in fraudulent claims as is being given to the deserving.

The Mayor declared so-called "revelations" of the last 48 hours, to be exaggerations, in his opinion. He voiced his complete belief that reports that the welfare claims being paid out are 12 to 15 per cent fraudulent are not based on any actual figures.

His own opinions, the Mayor said, are based on private investigations made under his own direction and on two investigations made by the Finance Commission.

## Probed Since 1930

"The Finance Commission investigations," the Mayor stated, "have been made since 1930. My own investigations have been since that time."

"Irregularities were found. But these irregularities were not particularly great. From the reports of these investigations and from my own knowledge of the calibre of the men and women who are in charge of giving the city's money to the needy, I am of the firm opinion that the frauds are not as great as depicted."

"Would you say that a report that the city is paying out \$2,000,000 a year in fake welfare claims to be incorrect?" the Mayor was asked.

"Absolutely," was his reply.

## Has Confidence in Board

The Mayor's statement concerning the members of the Welfare Board was a sweeping, whole-hearted belief in the personnel, who are unpaid workers.

"I have every confidence in Chairman Simon E. Hecht," the Mayor stated. "My confidence extends to the other members of the board. They are the most representative men and women to be found in the city of Boston."

"It should be remembered," the Mayor added, "that these people have spent their lifetimes in social work and in assisting the needy. They are people who know all sides of life. They are people who have the consideration of the city at heart."

## Doing Level Best

"I have found that they are fully cognizant of their responsibilities. They know what is going on. They are doing their level best to fulfill their duties and do them righteously. They understand the situation."

"They have a big duty that they are determined to do, and that is that no one in the city of Boston shall go hungry. There is no reason, in my opinion, to question the manner in which these people are doing their duty. Nowhere in the city of Boston could people be found who would be better qualified to handle this big responsibility. My confidence in them is complete."

## Planned to Ask Police

The Mayor made it plain that he talked with the welfare board officials from time to time, adding "I have always found them aware of their responsibilities." In this regard, he said he had talked with Chairman Hecht three months ago concerning the advisability of calling upon the police to aid in investigating welfare cases. He said the board was considering this on its own initiative at that time and, after further deliberations, when the number of aid recipients grew almost daily, it was deemed best by the board to request the aid of the police.

## Probe Still Goes On

The overseers of the public welfare of the city of Boston are Simon E. Hecht, chairman; William H. Taylor, Mrs. Margaret J. Gookin, Charles J. Fox, whose terms expire in April, 1934; Edward H. Willey, treasurer, Eva Whiting White, Nathan A. Heller, Mrs. Thomas F. McMahon, whose terms expire in April, 1935; Sophie M. Friedman, Morris Bronstein, Charles J. Mahoney, whose terms expire in April, 1933; Walter V. McCarthy, secretary.

On top of Mayor Curley's statement Police Commissioner Hultman said last night that so far as he knows the police have not yet completed their investigation of the first 500 cases of welfare recipients. Deputy Superintendent Thomas F. Good, in charge of the police investigation, branded as "very much exaggerated" a report that 71 fraud cases were ready for court out of the first 500 cases. Instead of the names of 10 dead persons being on the welfare rolls, as reported, the deputy superintendent said the exact number was three.

## Investigators Overworked

Attorney William H. Taylor of the Welfare Board, in commenting on the possibility that some of the Board's own investigators are responsible in part for frauds by not conducting proper investigations, expressed confidence in the Board's personnel. "They are greatly overworked and are doing an almost superhuman job," he said. He added, however, that if any case is revealed implicating any agent of the Board, prosecution will follow immediately.

As for a report that a number of aliens are receiving city aid, Attorney Taylor declared that this is a fact. "But," he said, "they have every right to be receiving aid. A study of Chapter 117, Section 2, of the General Laws of Massachusetts are clear on that point."

## Must Aid All Needy

"We are not instructed by the law to give aid to citizens. The law reads that we must 'aid all persons.' We cannot leave these people to starve."

"Again it is said that they have found persons arrested as receiving aid. That is also so. What are we going to do? Are we going to punish innocent wives and children and let them starve? Even in prison where persons are serving time for 10 times worse crimes than I have heard of on the welfare list, they are given three meals a day."

"The real point is, isn't it better to do as we were doing, keeping the family together under one roof, or as elsewhere with the father sleeping in one end of the town and his wife and children in another. In the morning they go out with tin cans and get in a bread line. It may cost a little more to do it our way, but I'm personally willing it should."

## Not Many Frauds

"Of course, there are some fraud cases. There are bound to be in such a large undertaking. Any large number of frauds, however, is another question. We as yet have no evidence of it."

"Of the 12,000 heads of families on the lists they are under constant check by the department. They work from one to four days a week, depending on the amount they get. During the other week days they must report at staggered hours each day to the welfare department. The other 13,000 we are constantly in touch with. Single persons getting aid have to report to us. Mother's aid cases are checked by the State Department of Public Welfare, as well as our own department. The same is true in the old city."

TRAVELER

8/29/32

## HECHT ANSWERS AID CRITICISM

### Declares the Conditions Not Half as Bad as Painted

Replying to the criticisms that have been levelled at his department, Chairman Simon E. Hecht of the overseers of public welfare, today declared: "Things aren't really half as bad as they appear to be."

Chairman Hecht added that this was purely a personal statement on his part, saying that late today a statement would be issued by the board, after a meeting.

The city council, scheduled to meet this afternoon, was expected to take steps toward an investigation, in view of disclosures made by the special police bureau which has been handling 500 or more cases for investigation. Last week a move for a municipal investigation was held up pending a police report.

Following Police Commissioner Hultman's report on examination of the first 500 welfare cases, 12 to 15 per cent. of which were labelled fraudulent, it was freely predicted that certain councilmen would demand a shakeup in the public welfare department.

Confidence in the administration of Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the board of overseers, and in other members of the board, was expressed last night by Mayor Curley, who asserted the members are "doing their level best to fulfil their duties and do them righteously."

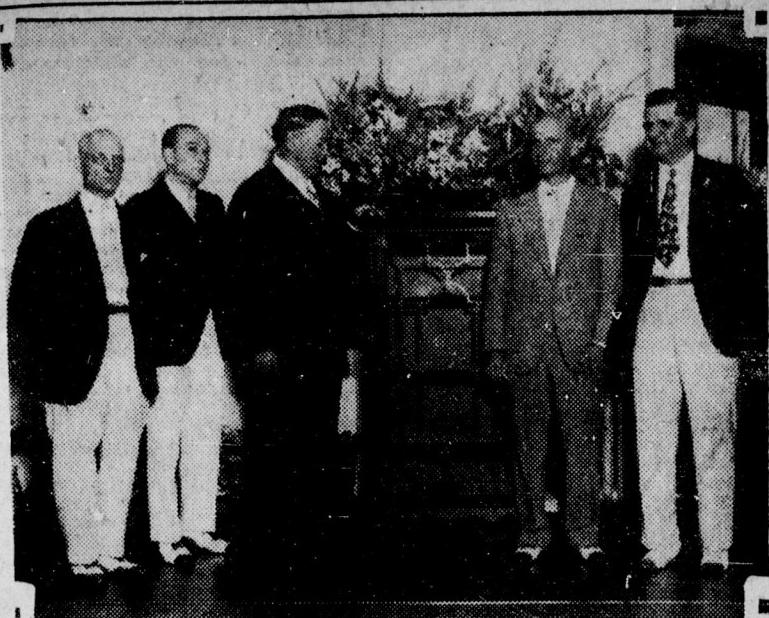
"They have a big duty that they are determined to do, and that is that no one in the city of Boston shall go hungry," said the mayor.

"There is no reason, in my opinion to question the manner in which these people are doing their duty. Nowhere in the city of Boston could people be found who would be better qualified to handle this big responsibility. My confidence in them is complete."

The mayor pointed out that the police investigation of welfare cases was instigated at the suggestion of the board itself.

City officials learned Sunday that the police report of the first group of cases given it for investigation shows that 71 of 500 cases justify immediate court action; and report 148 undeserving persons and 186 unnaturalized aliens in the group. The completion of the 500 cases marks merely the finish of 1-50th of the investigation work which has yet to be undertaken. There are 25,000 persons or families receiving aid, or a total of more than 100,000 persons.

## Summerfield's Has Big Day

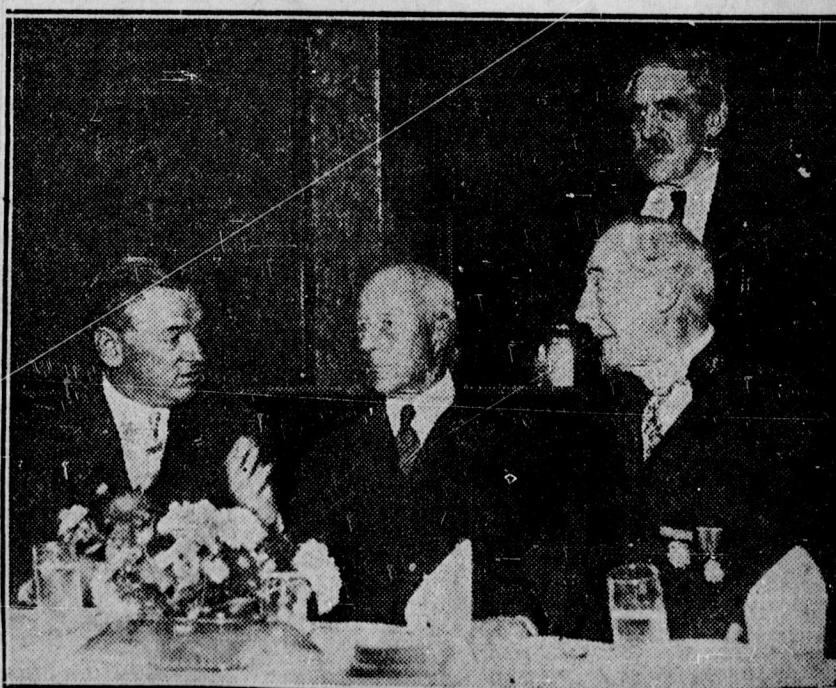


Attending today's opening of the new Summerfield's, expanded by the acquisition of additional floor space, and renovated and newly decorated. Left to right, I. H. Stern, buyer; Emil Singer, general manager; Mayor Curley; Julius Stern, treasurer, and Benjamin Stern, president of the store.

TRANSCRIPT

8/29/32

## Volunteers Open "Penny Lunch"



(Transcript Photo by Warren Colby)

### Guests of Honor at Official Inspection

Left to Right—Mayor James M. Curley, Secretary of the Navy Charles Francis Adams, General Ballington Booth and, Standing, Colonel Walter

TRANSCRIPT

8/29/32

## What Are the Facts About Public Welfare?

Not a day more should be lost in unofficial and therefore irresponsible publicity about Boston's alleged public welfare frauds. During more than a fortnight elaborate reports have appeared which purported to give all the details of the police department's investigation of 500 cases submitted by the Public Welfare Department. But in this welter of print not one word of official summary and final statement has yet come from the high command of the police department itself. For that condition Commissioner Hultman is not to blame. He is entitled to all the time necessary to make his official report definite and accurate beyond question, and in the meanwhile, he cannot control each of the many patrolmen and officers engaged in this far-flung inquiry and stop them from making premature statements.

But the unofficial declarations already published are too serious to be left hanging in any foggy air of doubt whatsoever. If it be true that the people of Boston are now bearing a needless burden of as much as \$2,000,000 a year for frauds perpetrated upon the public welfare department, then the evil must be openly faced and stamped out. Generalized expressions of confidence in the good citizens who are now serving without pay as the overseers of this department are not sufficient to meet such pointed and concrete charges as recently have been offered the public. Of course every sensible person has confidence in the men and women of distinctly high type who comprise the executive board. But the issues raised demand that positive evidence be brought before the public on both sides, over the responsible signatures of public officials, and not merely by uncontrolled news-reports in the press and by wordy statements and counter-statements.

The fundamental question at stake is not necessarily one of confidence in the personnel of the welfare department's governing board. The issue may rather be one of the plan and efficiency of the organization of the paid staff of the welfare department. On this score, it seems more and more evident that the Boston Chamber of Commerce, the Finance Commission and Mayor Curley himself were well-advised in backing their bill to reorganize the Public Welfare system, which the General Court, at its last session, refused to pass. But thoughtful people, anxious to avoid building their judgment on the basis of uncontrolled and unofficial news-reports, cannot think the matter through to a conclusion until they have an official basis to go on. That basis should be swiftly provided.

# Boston Tax Rate Will Be \$35 or More

Assessors Work Day and Night to Make Announcement on Wednesday

## Curley Wants Rate Before Trip West

Board Strives to Keep Rate from Soaring Above an Advance of \$3.50

By Forrest P. Hull

Boston tax rate probably will be announced Wednesday morning, owing to Mayor Curley's scheduled departure to the West on Thursday to begin his campaign for Governor Roosevelt. The rate will not be less than \$35 nor higher than \$35.50 per \$1000 of valuation. The exact figure is not yet known to the assessors. What is known is the fact that the assessors are striving hard to keep the rate at an advance not greater than \$35.50, and that if they decide upon a substantial increase in the overlay to provide against abatements and refunds, the rate must soar above the \$35 mark.

To justify the heavy increase in the rate the mayor will emphasize three chief causes: (1) Reduction in valuations, estimated at \$70,000,000; (2) Reduction in the sources of income, such as that from income taxes, corporation and bank taxes, the total of which is below the figure for 1917; (3) Increase in the public welfare needs.

There never was a time in the past when these three items figured so vitally in a tax rate. The effect of each item has been recognized in circles friendly to the administration as well as in circles where criticism has centered. The one great point at issue among the mayor's critics has been his alleged neglect to pare expenses to meet the recognized needs.

That the public cannot appreciate the discouragements under which the assessors have worked, or the efforts made to lighten the burden upon the harassed taxpayer, has been the mayor's repeated statement, especially since he took an

active part in furthering efforts to obtain for the municipalities of the State a bond issue of \$15,000,000 by special legislative enactment. With such enactment the city of Boston would be able to clip \$2 off its rate, or nearly as much as the public welfare disbursements are responsible for.

The needs of the year have been scaled to such an extent, despite all the extraordinary demands, that the city requirements, including the city budget, the county budget, city and county debt requirements, pension fund, school budget, school building needs, State assessment, metropolitan assessments and the Elevated Railway deficit, will total practically the same as for 1931.

### Heavy Shrinkage of Credits

To offset the expenditures, Boston finds a heavy shrinkage of credit. In the first place, there was no surplus in the treasury at the beginning of the year favorably to affect the new rate. Second in importance is a reduction of almost \$2,000,000 in the State income tax return and another million decrease in the corporation tax return. Though the automobile excise tax will be lower this year, there has been a gain of \$900,000 in the highway fund and a credit of \$325,000 for old-age assistance. Finally, there is no credit on the part of the Boston Elevated disbursements, but rather an assessment of \$1,183,893.

Public welfare, soldiers' relief and hospitalization charges are the highest in the city's history, and anticipating the tremendous demands for these purposes the mayor attempted to secure relief at the Legislature so that he might reduce the pension retirement reserve fund and use the Cemetery Fund accumulations. He was denied that right. The final attempt has been to obtain relief through a special bond issue.

More important than all else in the forthcoming tax rate announcement, especially to those agencies that have been strenuously at work to obtain lower property values, will be the mayor's admission of the need of reducing valuations. Up to recently there has been no such official admission from City Hall. The assessors are swamped with petitions for abatement of taxes and it is currently reported that many more requests will be made as the weeks pass.

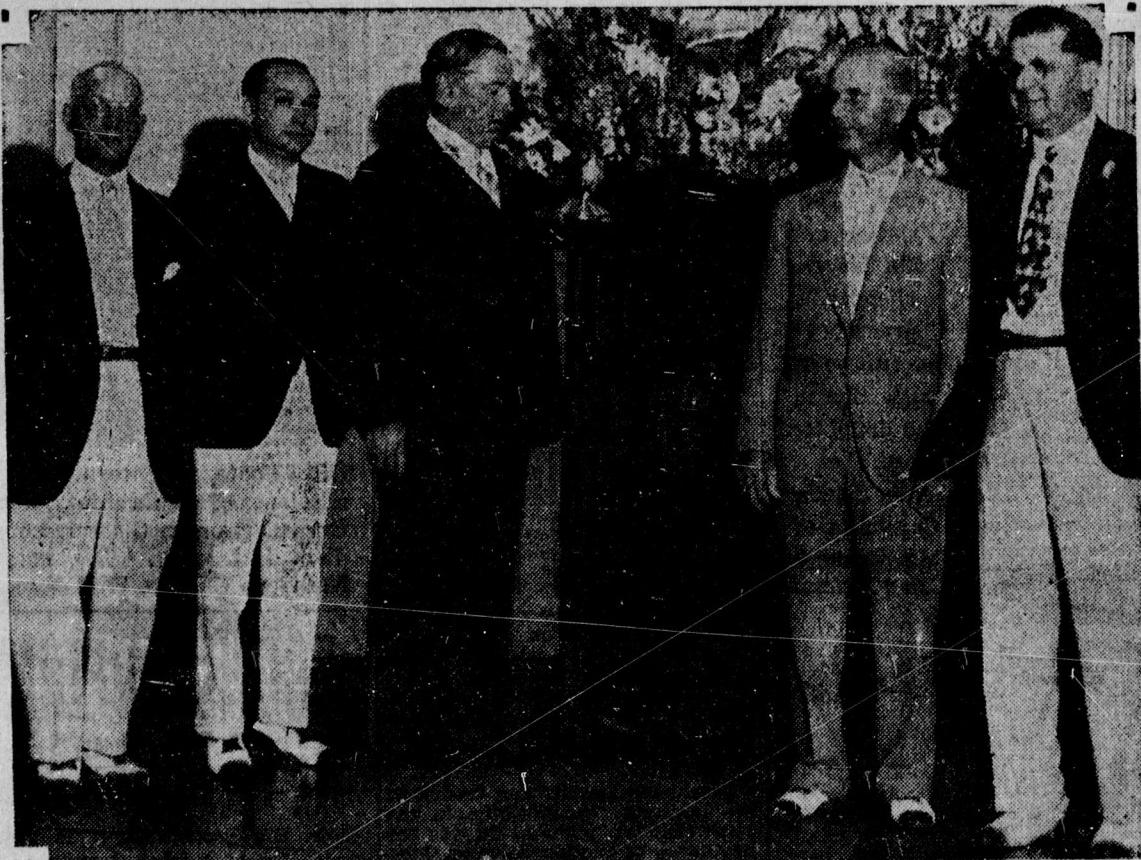
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AMERICAN

8/29/32

# SUMMERFIELD'S DOUBLED IN SIZE

Addition of the Store at the Corner of Stuart St. Gives 125,000 Square Feet of Floor Space—Grand Opening Sale Today



I. H. STERN      EMIL SINGER      MAYOR CURLEY      JULIUS STERN      BENJAMIN STERN  
Mayor Curley officiated today at opening of      Stuart sts. This picture of Mayor and store  
addition to Summerfield's at Washington and      executives was taken at opening ceremony.

Herald

## LAST HEALTH UNIT?

The seventh of the health units erected under the will of George Robert White was dedicated recently in Roxbury. The will stipulated that the residue of his estate should be held as a permanent charitable trust fund, the net income to be used "for creating works of public utility and beauty, for the use and enjoyment of the inhabitants of the city of Boston."

Just what these works should be was a nice problem ten years ago. The first board of trustees decided to build a series of "health units" in the more congested parts of the city, for instruction in health habits and clinics in preventive medicine. The units concentrate on teaching and demonstration beginning with

instruction of mothers in the pre-natal period. No diagnosis is provided. They are all doing a fine service of which the donor would surely have approved.

It may be that no further such units will be built. The cost of their maintenance has to be borne by the health department which is supported by taxation. The congested centres may fairly be regarded as now having been provided for. Thus the trustees and the manager of the fund may before long have to decide upon new uses for the income of the fund.

AMERICAN

8/29/32

## MAYOR WELCOMES LEGION'S NEW CHIEF



James Rose, recently elected state commander of the American Legion, shown during his visit today with Mayor Curley. Harold P. Reddie, department adjutant, accompanied Comdr. Rose. Mayor Curley presented a tercentenary history to the commander. (Staff photo.)

ADJ. REDDIE

COMDR. ROSE

MAYOR CURLEY

## MAYOR GREETED BY LEGION CHIEF MAYOR DEFENDS DOLE BOARD'S HONESTY

James F. Rose, new state commander of the American Legion, paid an official visit to Mayor Curley at City Hall today and was presented a copy of the history of the municipal tercentenary celebration of 1930. He was accompanied by Harold P. Reddin, state adjutant, and other Legion officials.

### Eddie Dowling Gives Mayor Song Record

"Eddie" Dowling, musical comedy star, visited Mayor Curley at City Hall today and presented him a phonograph record of the new official Democratic national campaign song, "Row, Row, Row with Roosevelt."

The song was written by Dowling and J. Fred Coota.

Chairman Simon E. Hecht and my confidence extends to the other members of the board. They are among the most representative men and women to be found in the city.

"It should be remembered that these people have spent their lifetimes in social work and in assisting the needy. They are people who know all sides of life. They are people who have the consideration of the city at heart.

"I have found that they are fully cognizant of their responsibilities. They know what is going on. They are doing their level best to fulfil their duties righteously. They understand the situation.

"They have a big duty that they are determined to do and that is that no one in Boston shall go hungry. There is no reason, in my opinion, to question the manner in which these people are doing their duty. My confidence in them is complete.

#### HAD PLANNED PROBE

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Mayor Curley, in a statement in which he expressed full confidence in the integrity of the welfare board, branded as "absolutely incorrect" a report that \$2,000,000 a year was being paid out in fake welfare claims.

"My opinions," the mayor said, "are based on private investigations made under my own direction and on two investigations made by the finance commission.

"Irregularities were found, but these were not particularly great. From the reports of these investigations and from my own knowledge of the calibre of the men and women in charge of giving the city's money to the needy, I am of the firm opinion that the frauds are not as great as depicted.